

ONLY FOOD IN VICHY SHIPS

Convoy Incident

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—A Vichy communiqué denies that any materials other than food-stuffs were aboard the convoy which figured in the incident with British units off the Algerian coast.

The communiqué says that the convoy consisted of 15,000 tons of rice and sugar, being sent from Madagascar and Indo-China for Algeria and Morocco for next month's rationing; 1,500 tons of vegetables and seeds from Morocco for the non-occupied zone; and 7,000 tons of barley from Morocco, intended for the native population of Algeria.

German Pressure
(BY "REUTERS" DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT)

LONDON, Mar. 31.—The Germans are playing up the incident off the Algerian coast between the French convoy of four merchantmen and British units. The British have excellent reasons for believing that the ships were under no restraint, chiefly a big consignment of rubber. The incident is unfortunate as the Vichy Government are acting under the inspiration, if not pressure, of the Germans. The rights of the British to enforce blockade are undisputed in international law and it was only by the exercise of great self-restraint that the British did not employ the power which was in their hands of using coercion against the blockade runners but the higher considerations of humanity prevailed despite the added provocation of hell-fire from the shore batteries and attacks from the air.

No Wish To Quarrel

Britain has obviously no wish to quarrel with Vichy or interfere with the legitimate traffic between non-occupied France and her colonies, but it is clear that Germany cannot be allowed to take advantage of British generosity and forbearance.

It is therefore to be expected that Britain's attitude in this and cognate questions will be repeated to Vichy in unmistakable language to remove the chances of repetition of such incidents. The British Government have known for some time that French vessels have been carrying goods destined for Germany. The most revealing was the programme for French railway transport drawn up by the Germans recently, covering January 15 to March 1, which fell into British hands.

Ore And Rubber

According to this programme, some 30,000 tons of bauxite, 10,000 tons of aluminium and thousands of tons of rubber were to be transferred from Unoccupied France to Germany. Absolute priority over other shipments was provided in the programme for some 200,000 tons of nitrate which had arrived in Unoccupied France from Chile.

The Free French newspaper, published in London, writes: "Frenchmen will realise, despite the efforts of the Vichy radio that Admiral Darlan is playing the German game. He is pushing collaboration with the Reich to an extreme limit as Laval would have done. If Darlan is tied to Berlin, the French nation repudiates this outrageous attitude and remains faithful to the alliance with Britain, who is fighting for victory over the common enemy."

Civil Service Teams

The following will represent Civil Service C.C. in League Cricket matches on Saturday:
1st XI v. Kowloon C.C. (away).—J. E. Richardson (Capt.), K. J. Atwell, F. Baker, W. H. Colledge, T. V. N. Fortescue, B. C. K. Hawkins, A. E. Perry, F. W. Pender, N. Whitley, A. M. J. Wright and R. M. Wood.
2nd XI v. Kowloon C.C. (home).—H. F. Stinger (Capt.), J. H. Adams, G. Bond, J. Davidson, F. E. Lawrence, T. Lockhart, J. F. MacGowan, J. Mitchell, H. Parrott, N. L. Smith and A. Watson.

DIET FOR FINICKY CHILDREN

It isn't always naughtiness that makes children go off their food. It is more often "Nerviness," tired digestion and the need for the stimulus of a new, palatable easily digested food.

Finicky children respond very readily to Horlicks. They love its flavour, it keeps them regular and provides abundant nourishment in a form that the most queasy stomach can take.

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LEE THEATRE



COMING SOON!

FULL STORY OF GREATEST FIGHT

FROM PAGE ONE

report sent in on Thursday. It stated that an enemy force was steaming eastward near Cape Passaro, the southernmost tip of Sicily.

With dramatic suddenness, the British Fleet sailed to contact the enemy.

Forces Sighted

On Friday morning, one battleship of the Littorio Class and a force of enemy cruisers were contacted by our light forces to the south of the western end of Crete while further air reconnaissance reported a second force, comprising two battleships, cruisers and destroyers, further north.

The Fleet Air Arm and R.A.F. immediately attacked the former, seriously damaging the Littorio class battleship, reducing her speed considerably while several hits were also registered on the cruisers and destroyers.

While aircraft and light forces thus maintained contact with the enemy, who endeavoured to scatter and return to his base, the battleship followed up. They were able to make contact only as darkness fell, the chase towards the Italian shore having lasted about 12 hours and covered some 200 miles.

Warspite's Shattering Fire

The leading ship of the British fleet was the Warspite which opened fire with her 15-inch guns from a distance of just under two miles. The effect of the Warspite's fire was devastating. The enemy cruiser Flume lit up the surrounding sea by a violent burst of red flame extending from the foremost funnel to the after gun turret.

One observer said that the "after turret itself was blown clean over the side."

While the ship was thus blazing, the Warspite poured in a further broadside, causing a fresh outbreak of flame. By now the entire battle fleet was in action, the whole scene being lit up by gunfire, blazing ships and searchlights.

Before the enemy had any chance to reply, a second cruiser, Zara, was burning fiercely when she received a broadside from the Warspite. A third cruiser, Pola, was likewise dealt with by the other British battleships, the whole action taking a matter of seconds.

Besides the Warspite, the battleships Barham and Valiant, and the destroyers Havock and Greyhound participated in the action.

"Well Done"

In his "Well Done" signal to the warships on their return to port, Admiral Cunningham said: "I am most grateful to all in the Fleet for their support on this as on all other occasions. The operations just conducted have given us notable success and supremacy. The skilful handling of our cruisers and the unflinching efforts of the Fleet Air Arm kept me well informed of the enemy movements and the well pressed home attacks of torpedo-bomber aircraft on the Littorio so reduced the speed of the enemy fleet that we were able to gain contact during the night and inflict heavy damage."

"The devastating results of the battleships' gunfire are ample reward for months of patient training. This work was completed by the destroyers in the admirable way we have come to expect of them."

Vittorio Veneto Damaged

ALEXANDRIA, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The enemy battleship damaged in the Mediterranean battle was the 35,000-ton Vittorio Veneto, of the Littorio class, states the captain of the sunk Italian cruiser Pola.

Cruiser Surrenders

ALEXANDRIA, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The Italian cruiser Pola surrendered to the destroyer Jervis after she had been disabled by a torpedo bomber which scored a direct hit in the engine room.

The Captain, 21 officers and 230 ratings were taken aboard the Jervis which then sank the Pola with a torpedo.

Italian Admission

ROME, Mar. 31 (UP).—To-day's war communiqué admitted that ships and two destroyers were lost in the Mediterranean on March 28; however, it is claimed that the British lost heavily, although the exact nature of the losses cannot be ascertained.

KING'S COUSIN TO MARRY OFFICER

Lady Iris Mountbatten, a cousin of the King and only child of the Marquis and Marchioness of Carisbrooke, is to marry Capt. Hamilton O'Malley, of the Irish Guards. The engagement has the King's consent. She is 21.

Enemy Losses Over Britain

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—R.A.F. fighter pilots and anti-aircraft defences destroyed enemy aircraft at an average rate of 50 a month since January 1 over and around Britain. The total "bag" for the first quarter of 1941 was 155.

Fighter Command losses for the first quarter of the year were 41 aircraft, state the Air Ministry.

Quiet Night

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—London had no air warning to-night. This is the eleventh quiet night running though over and around Britain, to-night there was again slight activity, mainly over the north-east coast.

Raiders were reported over several other areas but up to a late hour no incidents were reported.

Fighter In Channel

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—An enemy fighter which contacted over the Channel to-day was destroyed by R.A.F. fighters. It was officially announced.

This is the only item of daylight air activity by the enemy which the Air Ministry has to report.

Successes Impress

FROM PAGE ONE

joined the Nigerian forces, many members from which are at present serving in the East African campaign. The Gold Coast is similarly doing its utmost and the capital Accra recently had its own "land raid" when pamphlets fluttered down into the town inviting recruits to join the Gold Coast regiment. The response was good.

Finally the great harbour of Freetown is naturally playing a most important role in the present campaign. The defence of Sierra Leone have already been overhauled completely under the inspiration of the young and vigorous Major General Woolner and men of a famous English county regiment now commencing to be housed in the barracks where before stood only tropical vegetation.

Despite the reputation of West Africa being a "white man's grave," British troops on the whole have been very fit, thanks largely to the ruthless drive made by army experts against mosquitoes.

All three West African colonies now have British officers spreading information regarding the British cause among the Africans. Lagos broadcasts include news bulletins in "simple English" as spoken by the local inhabitants and despite their lack of orthodoxy they have proved exceedingly popular and effective.

'U.S. LABOUR IS READY TO HELP'

"The United States Labour Movement is appreciative of our position, and is willing to co-operate fully, although naturally desirous of safeguarding its standards."

Sir Walter Citrine, general secretary of the T.U.C., gave this impression of his talks with American Labour leaders.

He has been attending the recent convention of the American Federation of Labour in New Orleans. "Everyone I met was proud of the struggle that Britain is waging and desirous of helping," he declared. "The purpose of my visit was to share with United States Labour leaders the experience of British trade unions in the war-time emergency in the hope that such knowledge would be useful to the Americans in solving their own problems. I am in no way trying to instruct American labour—I am simply trying to inform them of our experiences."

Nanking Envoy With Vichy Govt

CHUNGKING, Mar. 30 (Central News).—The Chinese Government has lodged a protest with the Vichy Government following receipt of reports that Lin Chia-min, representative of the Wang Ching-wei regime there, had issued notifications jointly with the Japanese authorities to the Chinese residents asking them to attend a memorial service to be held to-day for the late Tseng Chung-ming, formerly Wang Ching-wei's close follower who was assassinated in Handi on March 21, 1938.

Berlin-Belgrade Tension Mounts

FROM PAGE ONE

Vichy, to-day issued an order urging the people not to evacuate their homes, and to disregard alarmist reports of foreign agents, spread for the purpose of causing confusion. There has been a sudden rush of many Belgrade residents into the interior of Serbia.

"Tourists" Leave

BELGRADE, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The German exodus from Belgrade continues. The German Minister, Herr Victor von Heeren, saw off 1,100 German civilians as they left here by a special Danube steamer last night. The passengers included 100 of the notorious "tourists." These left messages with their landlords saying: "We shall be back in a month." Most of them left their furniture here and are keeping on the tenancy of their Nazi-paid apartments.

At the request of the British Minister, Mr. Ronald Campbell, nearly all British women here left last night for Istanbul. A special train to-night is taking the remaining Germans to Vienna.

The Italians have already disappeared.

Troops On Border

Precise reports in regard to German troops on the Yugo-Slav frontier are very difficult to confirm, but it is well-known that there are some mechanised units on the Austrian frontier and it is easy to send further concentrations from Western Rumania while the large number of railway lines radiating southwards from Budapest would enable the Germans to mass troops very quickly along the long flat Yugo-Slav frontier.

In the event of aggression, the Yugo-Slav Army must be expected immediately to take up mountain positions as the flat frontier will be ideally suited to the German air and tank "blitz."

No Black-Out

The lights of Belgrade still blaze defiantly at night despite the fact that the city is merely a few minutes' flight from the nearest German air base in Rumania.

There has been no black-out in Belgrade since the crisis. Daylight, meanwhile, covers under black-out conditions. This is typical of the difference of outlook of the two cities.

Irresponsible Actions

BELGRADE, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The departure from Yugo-Slavia of a number of German citizens is probably the result of some regrettable incidents due to irresponsible persons on the occasion of patriotic demonstrations of March 27 and 28.

A semi-official statement announcing this was issued here to-day, adding: "These incidents were deeply deplored and condemned both by the Government and public opinion generally."

"With regard to them, the Government calls on the population to remain calm in all circumstances and pay no attention to alarmist rumours. It is doing all in its power to dispel any suspicion regarding its desire to maintain good relations with its neighbours."

Ministerial Activity

VICHY, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The Yugo-Slav Minister in Berlin, Dr. Antreich, has gone to Belgrade to inform his government of the "effect which events in Yugo-Slavia have produced in Germany." It was announced in "La Suisse."

The Yugo-Slav Minister in Moscow, M. Gabriylovich, has gone to Ankara, according to the Budapest "Magyar."

The newspaper adds, "M. Gabriylovich is carrying on very important conversations with the Turkish Foreign Minister, M. Sarajoglu. There is no doubt that he is personally best informed of the views of the Kremlin and Ankara."

Order of Day

BELGRADE, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—General Simovitch, the Yugo-Slav Prime Minister, has issued an Order of the Day, which was broadcast to the nation to-day.

The manifesto declared: "The interests of the country and nation demand that the people shall guard their own houses and if necessary even defend them at the cost of their lives for the sake of the Fatherland, the King and the nation. Our Army, Air Force and Navy are prepared to do their duty."

Death Of Strathroy At Valley Stables

One of the best-known Australian ponies in the Colony, Strathroy, collapsed in his stall on Sunday night and had to be destroyed.

Strathroy came to Hongkong as a sub-griffin in 1936, and during his racing career he held the following records: Five furlongs—carrying 105 lbs.—1.02.4; one mile—carrying 105 lbs.—1.14.4; from the two-mile post once round and in carrying 105 lbs., 1.55.6; mile and a quarter carrying 107 lbs., 2.10.4; mile and three-quarters carrying 105 lbs., 3.1.4.

It is interesting to note that in the Canberra Handicap (from the two-mile post once round and in) on October 9, 1937, Strathroy, carrying 105 lbs., ran a dead-heat with Gypsy Love, carrying 100 lbs., in 1.54.2, which was only 1 1/2 secs. more than Sapper's record time of 1.53 established last Saturday. The only record which Strathroy has lost at the old weights is the mile record of 1.14.4, carrying 105 lbs., which was beaten by Sapper, carrying 103 lbs., in the Whitsun Handicap on May 11 last. Sapper then established the record at 1.12.0.

In all his triumphs, Strathroy was ridden by Mr. Donald Black, the champion jockey—an unbeatable combination. Strathroy was owned by Mr. J. F. McGregor.

Yaumati School Annual Sports Meeting

The Yaumati Government School annual sports were held yesterday on the Central British School Ground. There were 123 competitors.

The senior championship resulted in a tie between Chun Yiu-kai and Wong Wai-sun with 11 points, and Au Yeung-chuen, with 15, won the junior championship.

Mr. S. Mok presented the prizes. High Jump (Senior).—1, Ng Tit-sang; 2, Chan Yiu-kai; 3, Wong Wai-sun. Height 4 ft. 10 in. Long Jump (Senior).—1, Ng Tit-sang; 2, Chan Yiu-kai; 3, Wong Wai-sun. Height 13 ft. 10 in. Senior.—1, Wong Wai-sun; 2, Chan Yiu-kai; 3, Wong Wai-sun. Time 13.2. Junior.—1, Au Yeung-chuen; 2, Lam Kwok-wah; 3, Chan Wai-hong. Time 11.2.4.

Three-legged Race (Small Boys).—1, Yung Shau-lung, Ng Chung-dew; 2, Lau Man-ching, Kung Yiu-foi. Time 13.2. Junior.—1, Chan Yiu-kai; 2, Lau Man-ching; 3, Lau Yiu-kwan. Distance 15 ft. 2 in. Junior.—1, Au Yeung-chuen; 2, Lam Kwok-wah; 3, Poon Chee-wo. Distance 15 ft. 11 in. Spoon and Egg Race (Small Boys).—1, Yung Shau-lung; 2, Ng Chung-dew; 3, Lau Man-ching. Time 11.2.4.

400 Yards (Senior).—1, Wong Wai-sun; 2, Yung Shau-lung; 3, Lau Yiu-kwan. Time 8.1.2. Junior.—1, Au Yeung-chuen; 2, Lam Kwok-wah; 3, Chan Wai-hong. Time 6.5.3. 220 Yards (Small Boys).—1, Leung Kim-wai; 2, Chau Kuo-lok; 3, Leung Ping-kwan. Time 2.12.2.

Half-mile (open handicap).—1, Ng Tit-sang; 2, Hung Chee-lep; 3, Tsui Yum-man. Fast pupil race.—1, Lo Chu-pang; 2, Lau Pak-ngo. Class team race (Classes 5 and 6).—Class 7. Class team race (Classes 7 and 8).—Class 7. Class team race (Classes 7 and 8).—Class 7. Class team race (Classes 7 and 8).—Class 7.

Class team race (Classes 7 and 8).—Class 7. Class team race (Classes 7 and 8).—Class 7. Class team race (Classes 7 and 8).—Class 7.

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"R. Abbit's" Cricket Comments

Rain Again Spoils Week-end

Recreio Saved Against Indians: Local Interest Definitely On The Wane

THE CRICKET SEASON was yet further ruined by the weather on Saturday last when, after light rain about four, there was a perfect deluge about five o'clock. Apart from the Police and University, the Junior League where the former team made such short work of their opponents that they got the match over before being flooded that there was nothing doing.

There seems to me no earthly chance of finishing the first Division programme and I strongly recommend those interested to scrap all programmes and play off K.C.C. v. Civil Service on the first fine Saturday.

I went along to deal with the C.S.C.C. v. Varsity match at the Valley only to find it had been cancelled.

There is something pretty rotten in the cricket out here at present and unless more enthusiasm is shown I don't know what is going to happen to the game. I admit the weather difficulties but it is more than that.

I AM inclined to think that the Recrio with a somewhat depleted team might quite probably have been beaten on Saturday last but for the rain. The conditions were never good and the I.R.C. had to struggle for runs.

Had Ozorio, who bowled excellently, been able to get good support from the other end, a very different story might have been told, but the I.R.C. batsmen hung on and six of them got double figures, K. M. Rumjahn heading the list with 25 runs.

The total of 116 was very modest and, had Eddie Gosano been there to bowl opposite Ozorio, (they are a splendid contrast), I think it would have been very much smaller.

The Recrio started poorly but rain intervened. They suffer from the fact that both Jerry and Zinho Gosano have been on the injured list, and I am afraid that they are tending rather towards that multiplicity of games which has spoilt many a promising young player here.

League Match Finished

THE Police showed a flash of their last year's form when they beat the University second eleven, which had been obliged to include one or two of fairly regular first eleven players.

Apart from Matthews (28) and T. T. Chin (14) the highest score was 3, and they were all out for 58! White took 6 for 35 and Carey 4 for 18.

The Police had time to hit off the runs before the deluge burst—one of the heaviest I have seen for some time.

SPORTS ADVT.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Draft Programmes and Entry Forms for the Third Extra Race Meeting to be held (weather permitting) on Saturday, 12th, and Monday, 14th April, 1941, may be obtained from the Secretary's Office, Exchange Building; the Club House, Happy Valley; the Hong Kong Club; the Sports Club; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on THURSDAY, 3rd April, 1941.

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Secretary.

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Eastern Boat Combd Manila Universities

MANILA, Mar. 31 (UPI).

The Eastern Football Club from Hongkong defeated the picked stars from the Letran and San Thomas Universities 4-2 in a football match to-day. Hau Ching-to scored two of the goals.

The Hongkong XI lead 2-0 at half-time, but the local team scored twice in quick succession in the early minutes of the second half, after which period the Chinese regained the superiority and went through on two more occasions to register goals.

Kotewall Cup Final On Saturday

The Kotewall Cup final between the Army and South China will be played on the Navy ground, Causeway Bay, at 3.0 p.m. on Saturday. Proceeds from the match will be devoted to charity.

time at the Valley—and Hunter's 34 not out was a valuable factor in their first victory.

Draw At K.C.C.

THE principle feature of the drawn game at K.C.C. was a bright innings of 64 by Ainslie made in three quarters of an hour.

Ainslie has shown much promise this season and has several excellent performances to his credit both with bat and ball. Unfortunately, he has a habit of interlarding these bright patches with a series of complete failures. It is a thing he will grow out of, given patience and plenty of practice.

The C.S.C.C. got to 123 which was not likely to have been good enough in fine weather, but the rain saved them. All these unfinished matches have to be replayed, according to the rules. I wonder if they will be?

Club Game

THERE was the usual Army and Club friendly at H.K.C.C. Alce Pearce who skipped the Army side which included G. J. P. Carey and E. W. Pudney.

Thanks to one of Pearce's brilliant centuries against some not very strong bowling the Army ran up 186 for 5 declared. D. S. Robb's XI looked like collapse when the rain came.

ANOTHER WASH-OUT

THE R.A.O.C. played the I.R.C. second eleven and the game met the usual fate. Stonor, who, does a great deal of secretarial work for Army cricket, retired with his score at 54, and in all the military side run up 158 for 7 declared. I.R.C. had one for 31 when the game terminated.

A SCHOOL GAME

THE Craigengower second eleven play a good many school games, and on Saturday last they had quite a good game with St Joseph's College. They made 118 only, and it would have been a close thing as M. A. Wahab made 40 and the school had 85 for six wickets.

These games are excellent for our young cricketers while still at school and I take off my hat to the Clubs who organise them.

ARMY CRICKET

I SEE that the Sappers pulled off the Army competition, unless I have entirely misread the book, but there seems to be a Small Units final down for this week.

I only wish that I could sink out of my office to see a bit of the game between the A.A. and R.A.S.C. It will be interesting to see if the two Pearcees come off for the A.A. as so often our better players fall when turning out for junior teams.

Pagh - Umetani Match Finally Brought To An End

Brilliant Badminton At Kowloon C.C.

M. P. Young Beats Hooi In Great Match

(By "Tinker")

Words seem so inadequate when required to describe a match such as that between M. P. Young and P. K. Hooi in the Badminton Championships at the Kowloon C.C. last night. Skill and unconquerable determination blended to make the game one which outshone most others ever played in the Colony.

In the two games that were completed, each was set and Hooi lost only by the narrowest margin, while in the third game, Young was forced to retire for a short while owing to cramping in the stomach which was attended by a vomiting spell. This was actually the second game, after he had won the first, and he conceded it to Hooi when the score was 11-5 in Hooi's favour.

Results at a glance were:

SENIOR SINGLES

M.P. Young beat P. K. Hooi 17-14, 5-11, 17-15.
K. W. Choy beat W. Gilles 15-3, 15-1.

JUNIOR SINGLES

J. Odell beat H. S. Jones 15-5, 15-12.
J. L. Anderson beat E. Zimmerman 15-0, 15-7.

JUNIOR DOUBLES

T. S. Young and M. K. Fung beat Peter Lo and J. Tsang 18-17, 15-7.

Brilliant Victory

THE YOUNG-HOOI match was the match of the evening. Young led 9-0 in the first game before Hooi commenced on his back-to-the-wall fight that was the outstanding feature of the whole match. Offsetting Young's control over the shuttle with accuracy that found the corners in several occasions, Hooi crept up to 9-3, 10-8, 11-8 and finally took the lead at 14-11.

Hooi settled at three, and with Young leading 2-0 service changed hands several times before the latter collected the winning point.

It was towards the end of this set that Young gave first signs of distress. In the second game he was obviously labouring under difficulty, and when Hooi was leading 10-5 had to request a minute's rest. He carried on again for one more strenuous point and then left the court. He was absent for more than five minutes and conceded the game to Hooi.

Marvellous Recovery

HIS RECOVERY in the third game was marvellous. One anticipated that Hooi, who was playing like a champion, would walk over his handicapped opponent, but there was no handicap apparent when Young opened up.

He led 6-2, 7-3, 9-3 and the Hooi again worked back again into 8-9 down. The score went 11-8, 11-10, 12-0, 13-10 and finally 14-11 in Young's favour.

Each point kept the large crowd of spectators on the edge of their seats, and, in fact, in the midst of one particularly thrilling rally they could not forbear to cheer while the shuttle was still in flight.

From 14-11, Hooi crept up 14-12, 14-13 and finally 14-15. Young settled at three, and at 1-1 all service changed hands four times before Young scored his two points with fine cross court shots.

K. W. Choy Supreme

ON last night's and previous exhibitions, there does not seem to be anyone in Hongkong who is likely to deprive K. W. Choy of the Colony Singles Championship. His opponent yesterday, W. Gilles, though a great trial, was out-played in every department.

Choy's deceptive wrist work, his extremely powerful smashes and his amazing shuttle control go to the make-up of a badminton player that any Colony would be proud to acknowledge as its champion.

It might sound a little premature, but on form all indications are in that direction. Enthusiasts can nevertheless be most certain that the later games in the Senior Singles are going to be of a standard never seen before in Hongkong.

Referees' Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Hongkong Football Referees' Association will be held at the Hotel Cecil at 8 p.m. to-day. The speaker will be Mr. Wong Ka-lun, Chairman of the Hongkong Football Association.

Japanese Eliminated In Three Sets

(By "Tinker")

THOUGH at one time it appeared that the match was again going to be postponed, M. Pagh eventually eliminated O. Umetani in the Colony Singles Tennis Championship at the Hongkong C.C. yesterday in three sets. Scores were 4-6, 14-12, 6-3.

The crowd of spectators were thoroughly entertained with the standard which never dropped throughout the match. The ground was heavy and slippery, and shots were consequently difficult to make. In this, however, the odds were in favour of the Japanese who was far the lighter on his feet.

But the marathon second set should never have gone that distance. Decisions generally were doubtful, and though they were dispensed with cheerful impartiality, two in particular fell very heavily on Pagh in this second set. He won 14-12 which was just 14 games too many that were played.

The balls quickly discoloured and once again the umpire was in great difficulty, but with due respects to the linesmen concerned, I venture to say that it is impossible, especially in such a match and on ground as yesterday's, for the baseline judges to give decisions on sideline balls.

In the 12th game of the second set, with Umetani serving, the score was 15-40 when a palpable double-fault was allowed. Pagh was then leading 6-5 and should have won 7-5.

Again in the 20th game, with Umetani again serving, there was a line decision given by the baselinesman against Pagh that made the players hesitate. The game eventually went to Umetani for that point made him 40-love, and though he lost two points he won the third.

However, the set went to Pagh.

Accurate Shots

THE condition of the court made tennis difficult, but both players were nevertheless in accurate form, and several shots on the deep backhand were first-class. Each was concentrating on the backhand, and in this Pagh lost several valuable

points by hitting just over the side-line. Umetani jumped into a 3-0 lead in the first set, and later increased this to 4-2. On his own service, Pagh drew up to 3-4, then Umetani again went into a two games' lead at 5-3. Once more Pagh drew nearer at 4-5, but Umetani made good use of his own service in the 10th game to win the set.

The Marathon Set

RIGHT from the word "go", the second set was anybody's. From one-all to 12-all. First one then the other would break through the opposing service, but scores always evened up.

Pagh stayed on his baseline, and on the one or two occasions that Umetani advanced he was beaten by placed shots down the sidelines. There were the had decisions already mentioned, but these were with impartial judgment.

The Final Set

PAGH jumped into a 3-0 lead in the final set when he commenced to open out a little. He scored with some really fine angled shots to the backhand that completely beat the Japanese. Umetani struggled and reached 3-4, but on his own service lost to give Pagh a 5-3 lead.

In the final game Pagh had two set points and served a "double" into the net for the first, but on the second Umetani failed with his backhand and hit the ball into the net.

Thus ended a match that was only completed on the third attempt at playing.

To-day's Tennis

The following are to-day's matches in the Open Tennis Championships:

SINGLES

Tsui Wal-pui & K. H. Yip.
S. A. Rumjahn v. Lieut. Shields Goodman.

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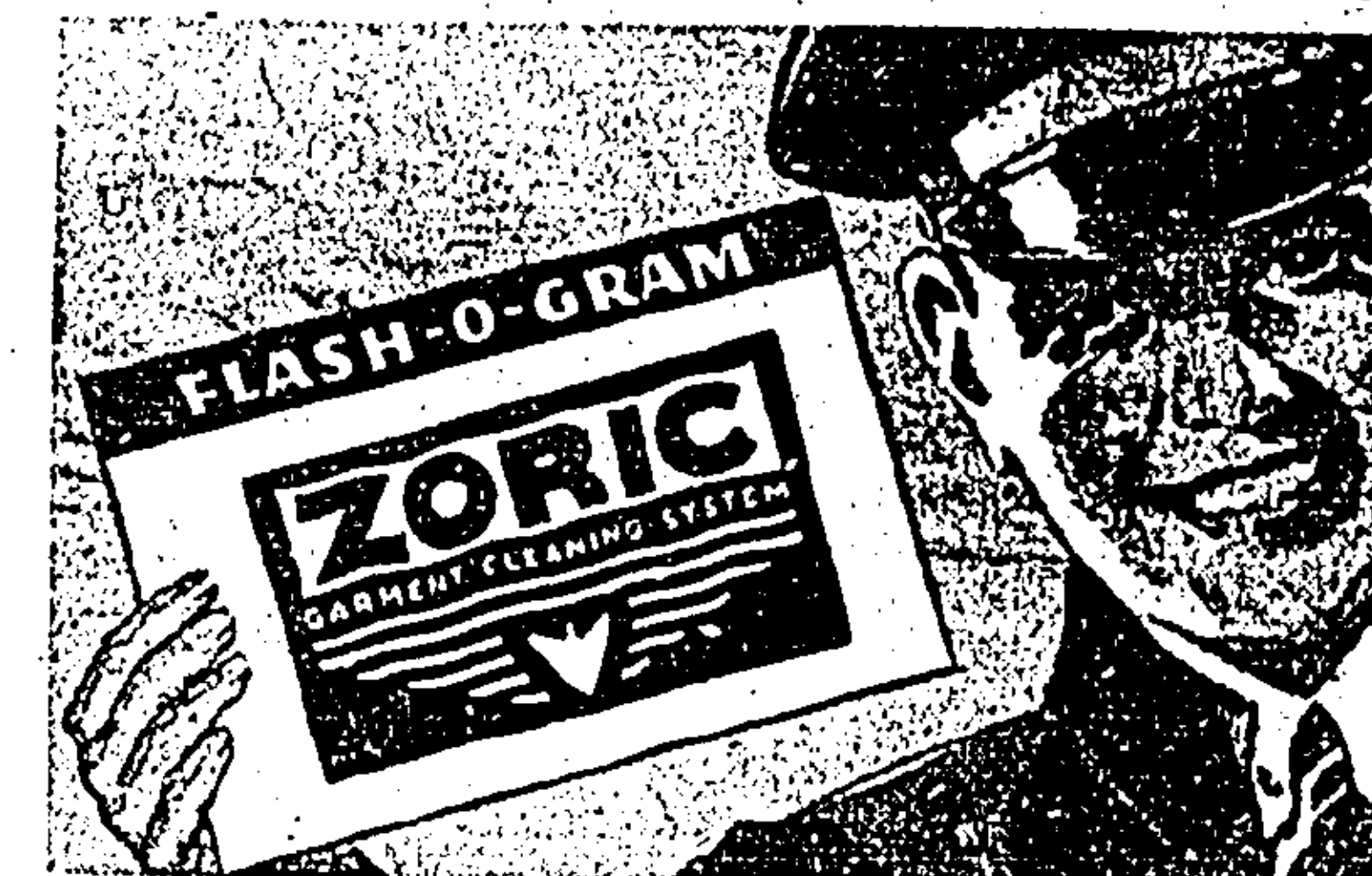
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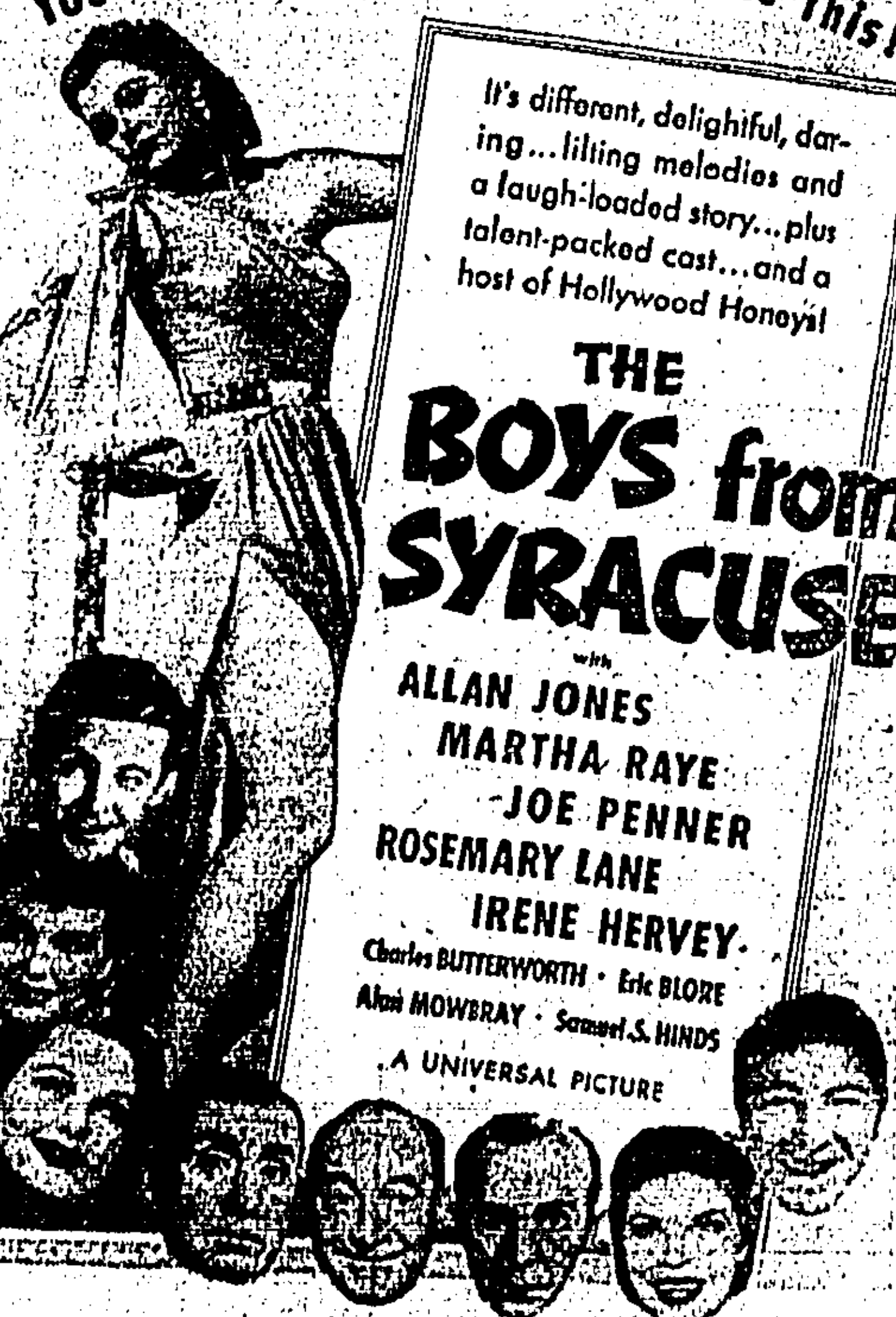
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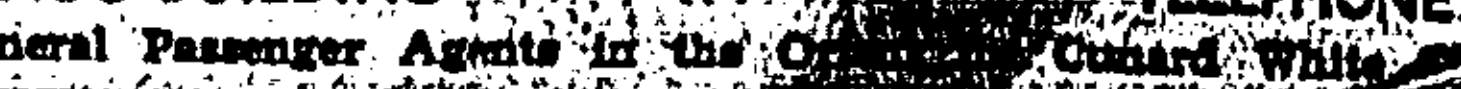


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WHEN LOVERS MEET OR LOVERS PART!...
The unbelievable story of the love that defied the world!

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ALLEN JENKINS
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Brinold, Mary Chan, Nora Dillon,
Esmee Edwards, Nellie Elson, Sheila
Haynes, Jessie Holland, Louisa Hol-
loway, Suzanne Hulton-Potts, Hen-
rietta Jernakoff, Jean Kerlake,
Frances Large, Li Luk-wa, Bella Ma,
Clare Marsh, Miliza Rackovska,
Edith Rawlings, Bertha Remedios,
Florence Robinson, Dorothy Shaw,
Grace Stratton, Elizabeth Thompson,
Helene Volkoff and Hannah Witten-
bach.

How Italian Ships Were Led Into Trap

FROM PAGE ONE

he found that it was Italian and not
British ships that were being sunk.
Optical Instruments
An interesting point with regard to
this action is that the British were
able to pick out the Italian in the
darkness before they themselves were
seen. A large measure of the suc-
cess must be credited to the
superiority of British optical instru-
ments to the German instruments
used by the Italians.

The ceaseless practice of the Brit-
ish fleet in night fighting also un-
doubtedly contributed to the signal
victory. It seems probable that the
Italians put to sea in an attempt to
intercept British convoys.

Asked whether he thought the Ital-
ians put to sea under German control,
Admiral Cunningham was of the
opinion that they probably put to sea
"under German instigation."

LATE NEWS

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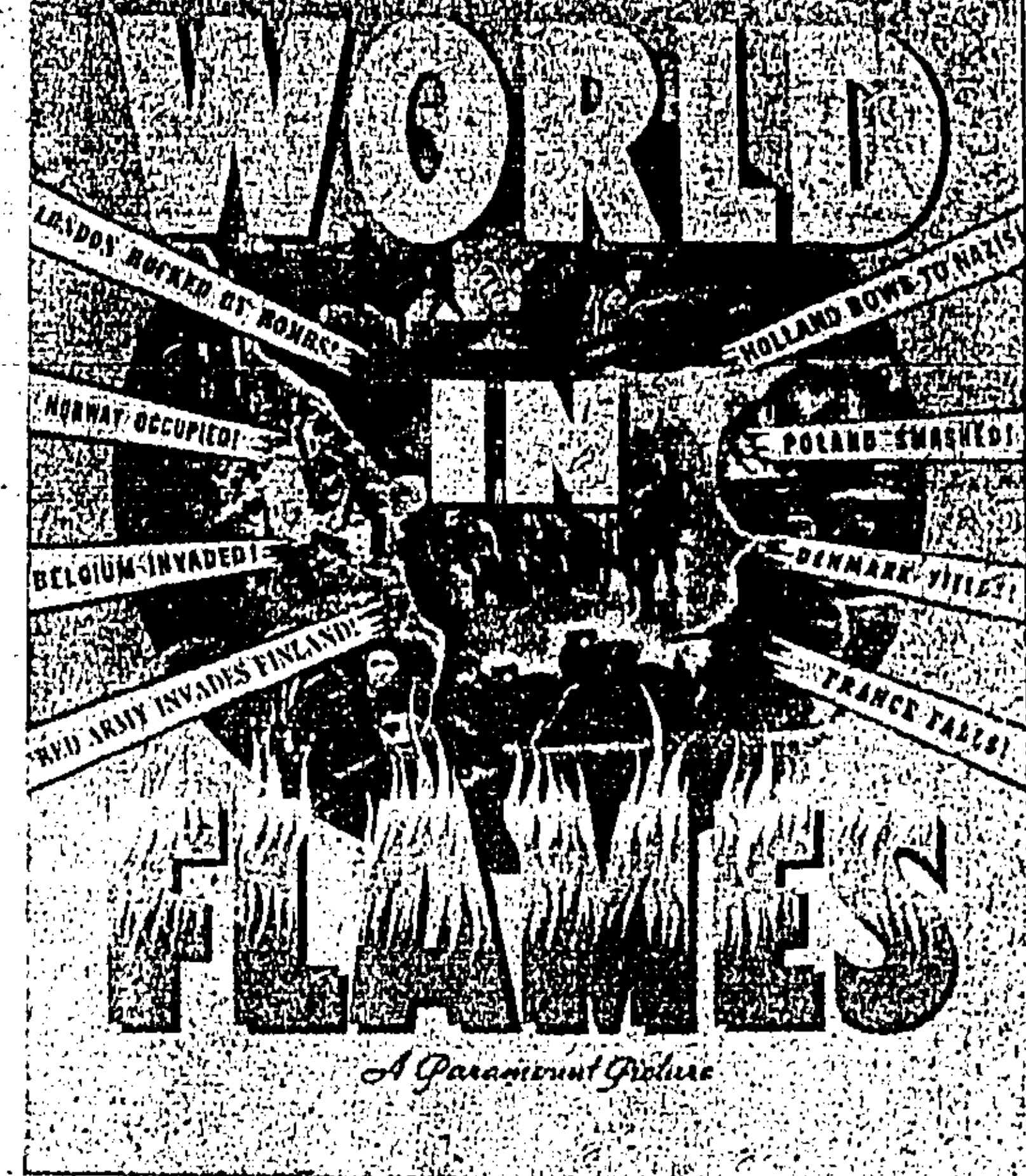
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DANISH SHIPS SEIZED

New Action Taken by U.S.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — President Roosevelt has indicated that he personally ordered the seizure of Italian, German and Danish ships at American ports during the week-end.

This was revealed at a press conference on the train taking him back to Washington, but he declined to comment.

Testimony At Public Inquiry

Dr Chau's Complaint

Dr S. N. Chau and Mr J. M. da Rocha, honorary Consul for Costa Rica, testified before the Immigration Office Inquiry Commission this morning when the inquiry was resumed at the Supreme Court.

Dr Chau complained of time wastage in carrying out examinations aboard ships.

The Chief Justice, Sir Atholl MacGregor again presided, the other members of the Commission being Mr D. Drummond, Mr C. Bernard Brown, Mr H. K. Woo, and Mr K. M. A. Burnett, the secretary.

Dr S. N. Chau said: I am Justice of the Peace and I possess a certificate of residence issued by the Immigration Office.

On Monday 10th March I returned to Hongkong from Macao by the s.s. "Kin Shan". I and other passengers in possession of similar certificates proceeded to the gangway but we were told by a Chinese Immigration Officer that we would not be permitted to disembark until all those passengers who had passports had landed. I and others with me had accordingly to wait for at least 20 minutes whilst those with passports left the ship.

The examination of the passports was done by a European Immigration Officer in the saloon and when I was allowed to land my certificate was examined by the Chinese Immigration Officer at the gangway, so that it would have been quite possible for persons with certificates such as mine to have disembarked at the same time as those with passports.

Questioned by Mr Forrest, Dr Chau stated that he had been given to understand by Sir Robert Kewall that no distinction was made between passports and entry permits in such a case. His sole complaint

TURN to Page 5, Column Two

Britain's War Finances For One Complete Year

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — "The astronomical" cost of the war to the British taxpayer is revealed in revenue returns issued to-night showing that Britain has spent the record amount of £3,867,245,870 in the financial year which ended to-night.

The total ordinary revenue from all sources was £1,408,867,097, leaving a deficit of £2,458,378,173.

The problem of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Kingsley Wood, in his forthcoming budget is whether to try by imposing new taxation, to narrow the enormous gap between expenditure and revenue, which has otherwise to be bridged by borrowing.

The supply services, including the fighting forces, accounted for £3,637,113,000 of the expenditure as against £1,078,257,000 last year.

A cheering feature of the returns is the net increase of £359,078,404 in total ordinary revenue over last year's yield. The revenue exceeded the Chancellor's estimate by over £46,000,000 largely owing to the success of new taxes including the Purchase Tax which he introduced in his July budget.

Most revenue items show substantial increases including Customs and Excise (presumably including Purser's Tax) which together are over £120,000,000 higher than last year's figures.

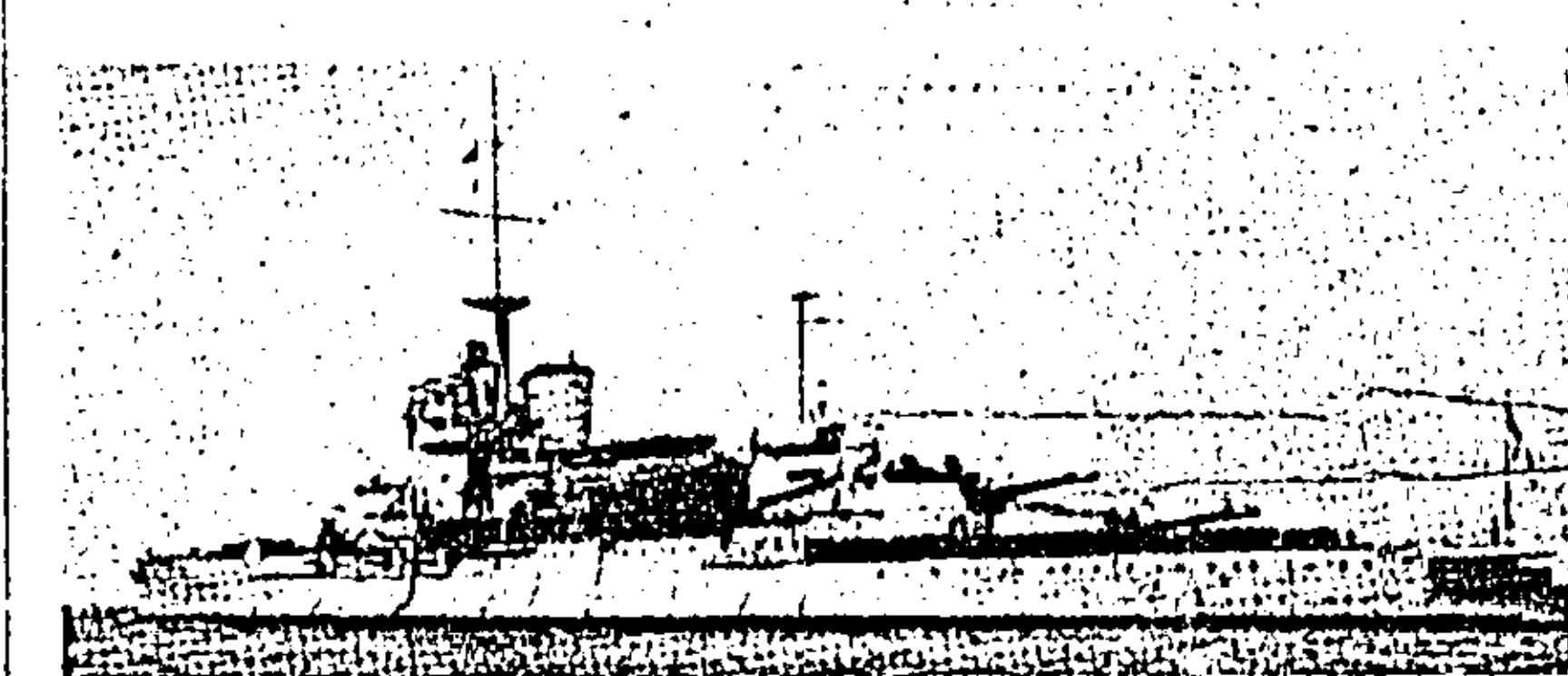
The total expenditure in the year it may be noted, averaged £10,500,000 per day but the expenditure during the past three months averaged nearly £13,000,000 per day.

The excess of expenditure over revenue was covered by borrowing. The floating debt was increased by £1,324,000,000 during the year and it now amounts to £2,818,410,000, compared with £1,489,400,000 a year ago.

ALEXANDRIA, MAR. 31 (UP). — ESTIMATES FROM THE BRITISH WARSHIPS WHICH PARTICIPATED IN LAST FRIDAY'S NAVAL ACTION IN THE IONIAN SEA INDICATE THAT OVER 3,000 ITALIAN OFFICERS AND SEAMEN WERE LOST IN ADDITION TO THE 900 SURVIVORS WHO ARE NOW PRISONERS OF WAR. (AN "EXCHANGE TELEGRAPH" DESPATCH FROM ATHENS SAYS THAT THE SURVIVORS INCLUDE 35 GERMAN OFFICERS AND PETTY OFFICERS.)

An Italian battleship of the Littorio class was very severely damaged, while three heavy Italian cruisers and two destroyers were definitely sunk. In addition a six-inch gun cruiser and a third destroyer were possibly sunk, in what was probably the most decisive naval engagement since Trafalgar.

In the pitch blackness, 150 miles west of Crete, three enemy cruisers appeared off the British fleet's starboard bow. The flagship Warspite opened fire with a complete broadside from her 15-inch guns reducing the cruiser Fiume to a floating hell with the first salvo.



The British battleship, Warspite.

How Italian Ships Were Led Into Trap

ALEXANDRIA, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — How the Italian warships were led into a trap is now revealed. The cruiser Orion (sister-ship of the Achilles and Ajax of Graf Spee fame) contacted enemy ships and lured them towards the British battle fleet for about four hours until the enemy battleship, stated to be the 35,000-ton Vittorio Veneto, was damaged by the Fleet Air Arm.

After this, the Italians, possibly scenting a trap in the Orion's tactics, about turned. When the enemy retired, the objective of the British light forces was to try and cut off the damaged enemy battleship which was then reported about 30 miles distant heading for Italy, listing and badly down by the stern.

The British light forces carried out a "baiting" movement at full speed in order to place themselves in the path of the enemy despite the fact that the latter was much heavier and superior in force, but no contact was made and it was found that the cruisers Fiume and Zara, which had previously been "accompanying" the Vittorio Veneto, had returned to help the stricken cruiser, Pola.

Yesterday several small detachments entered the Italian lines at various points, stated the Athens radio, inflicting losses, taking prisoners and seizing many machine-guns.

Greek artillery was also active against moving columns but Italian artillery response was weak. Greek aircraft co-operated, the Athens radio, inflicting severe losses while attacking important targets without, however, any losses to themselves.

Springboks In Diredawa

CAIRO, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — The advance towards Asmara in Eritrea continues, states an official communiqué.

The occupation of Diredawa in Abyssinia was carried out by South African troops who are now advancing westward.

A forward movement is developing in other sections. The number of prisoners is steadily mounting while the guns and war materials abandoned by the retreating enemy are being collected in large quantities.

Aerial Support of Army CAIRO, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — Another heavy raid on Tripoli was made to-day in continuance of the R.A.F. support of the army operations in Abyssinia and elsewhere.

R.A.F. bombers to-day bombed and machine-gunned enemy positions. All our aircraft returned safely from these operations.

Between the battleships Warspite, Barham and Valiant—all firing earth-shaking salvos with their 15-inch guns—the other Italian ships met the fate of the Fiume after which the British destroyers raced in to finish the job with two torpedoes and at the same time sank two Italian destroyers.

All units of the British fleet returned to port without a single scratch or casualty. The entire action lasted over 12 hours. It is the first time since Jutland that battleships have been engaged in night action. It is fair to assume that the Italian navy no longer exists much more than in name only.

Fuller Details

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — Fuller details of the crushing defeat of the Italian Fleet—in the Mediterranean—were given to-night. The week of the war, bringing the enemy's almost certain losses to seven warships—four cruisers and three destroyers—while a battleship of the Littorio class was seriously damaged by repeated pounding of Fleet Air Arm torpedoes.

With the return of the British Fleet to Alexandria without a man hurt or a ship scratched, the full story is revealed of how the enemy force were lured to destruction by a British cruiser.

The Italians were taken completely by surprise when the 30,000-ton battleship Warspite, leading the British Fleet, followed by the battleships Barham and Valiant, began a chase lasting 12 hours and demolished an enemy cruiser already hit by aerial torpedoes with salvos of broadsides, leaving destroyers to race in and finish the job.

Back in port, Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, C-in-C, Mediterranean, paid great tribute to the personnel of his Fleet for skilful manoeuvring and to the Air Arm for the untiring efforts which, between them, contributed to the greatest naval victory of the war.

The first news of the Italian Fleet's activity was an air reconnaissance

TURN to Back Page, Column 3

Meet Strong Fleet

This move either indicated that they did not realise the full strength of the distant British battle fleet or was designed to create a diversion to enable the Italian battleship to escape.

It was while the British light forces were searching for the enemy battleship that the British battle fleet blasted the Fiume and Zara.

As the destroyer flotilla led by the Jervis approached the scene of the blazing Italian cruisers, the sea was dotted with 700 or 800 men, some of whom were picked up but the British ships were unable to wait as other Italian ships were menacing them and the cruiser Pola, though motionless, was still unaccounted for.

Surrender At Sea

As the Jervis approached the Pola flung out a large white sheet and her crew were drawn up on the quarter-deck apparently ready to surrender. The Pola's private papers and the

TURN to Page 5, Column Three

Japanese Bombers Over Shanghai

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

SHANGHAI, April 1 (UP). — Eight aeroplanes, believed to be Japanese bombers, flew over Shanghai at 2 a.m. this morning which is the first time in many months that planes have made a flight over the city.

See Back Page For Further Late News

Britain's Man of the Moment



Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham.

Berlin-Belgrade Tension Mounts

Yugo-Slav Statement Received

Special to the "Telegraph"

BERLIN, Mar. 31 (UP). — Authorised circles in Berlin declared that the awaited statement regarding Yugo-Slavian foreign policy vis-a-vis the Axis has been received. However, it was added that nothing is known as yet regarding Yugo-Slavia's attitude towards the Axis pact.

MATSUOKA IN ROME

Audience With Pope Arranged

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — Mr Yosuke Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, who arrived in Rome to-day by special train, was met at the station by Count Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister, and other members of the Italian Government, the Secretary of the Fascist Party and the German Ambassador.

Message To Ribbentrop

VICHI, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — Mr Matsuoka will meet Mussolini on Tuesday. He will lunch with King Victor. His audience with the Pope will take place on Wednesday, according to a Rome dispatch.

The German radio states that Mr Matsuoka has sent a telegram to Herr von Ribbentrop, saying: "I am sure that the conversations which we had in such a friendly atmosphere in Germany will lead to a further strengthening of the bonds between the two countries and the creation of a new order in Europe and East Asia."

Axis Ships Slip Away To Secret Rendezvous

RIO DE JANEIRO, Mar. 31 (Reuter). — Rumours that Axis ships are gathering in mid-ocean for a convoy under the protection of German battle cruisers, are strengthening.

They coincide with the sailing of the Italian freighters, Franco Martelli from Recife, Brazil, and the Frisco from Fortaleza, Brazil, 24 hours after the departure of the German steamer Dresden, from Santos.

The vessel clearing at the Brazilian port on Sunday, gave Oak as its destination.

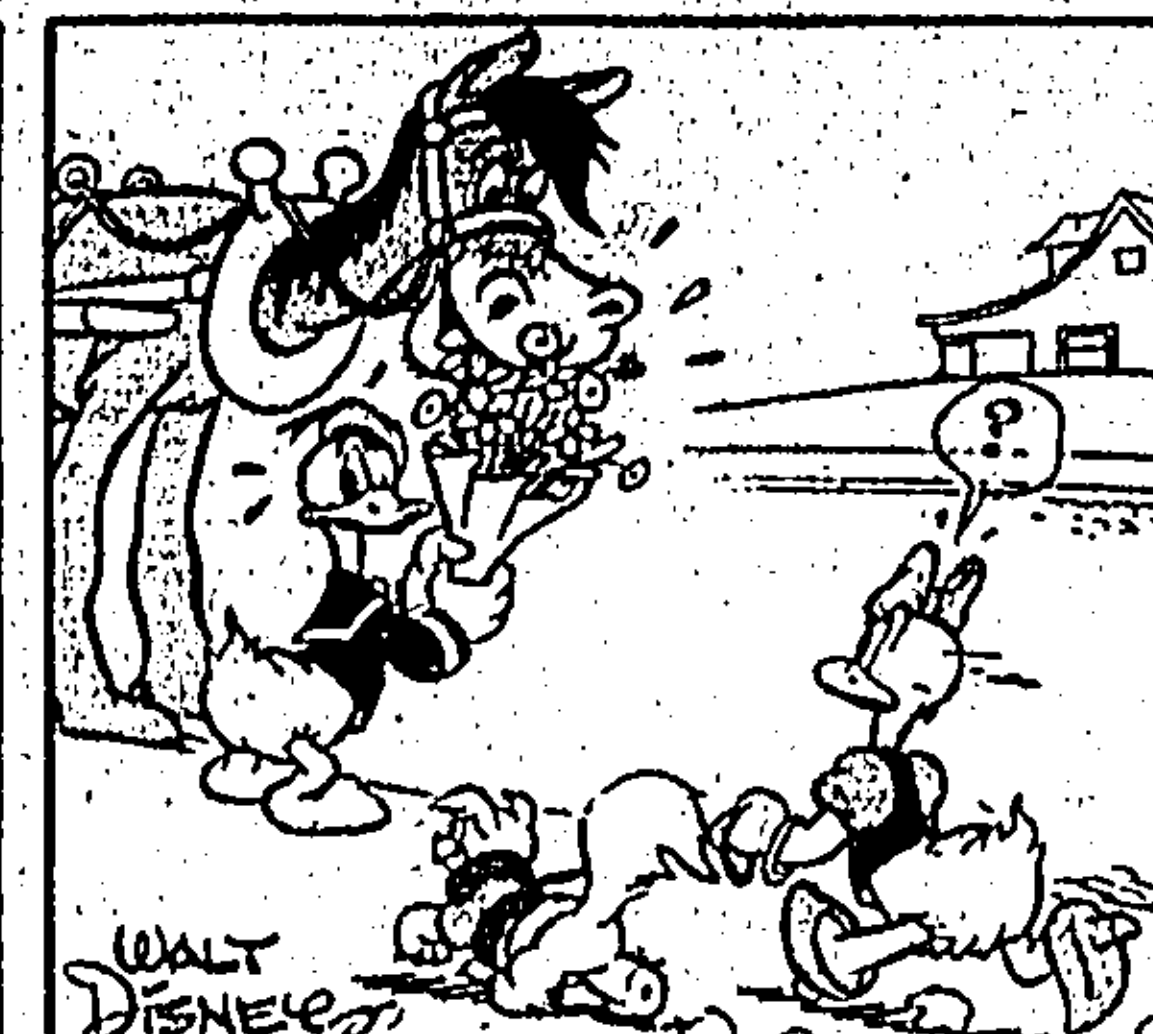
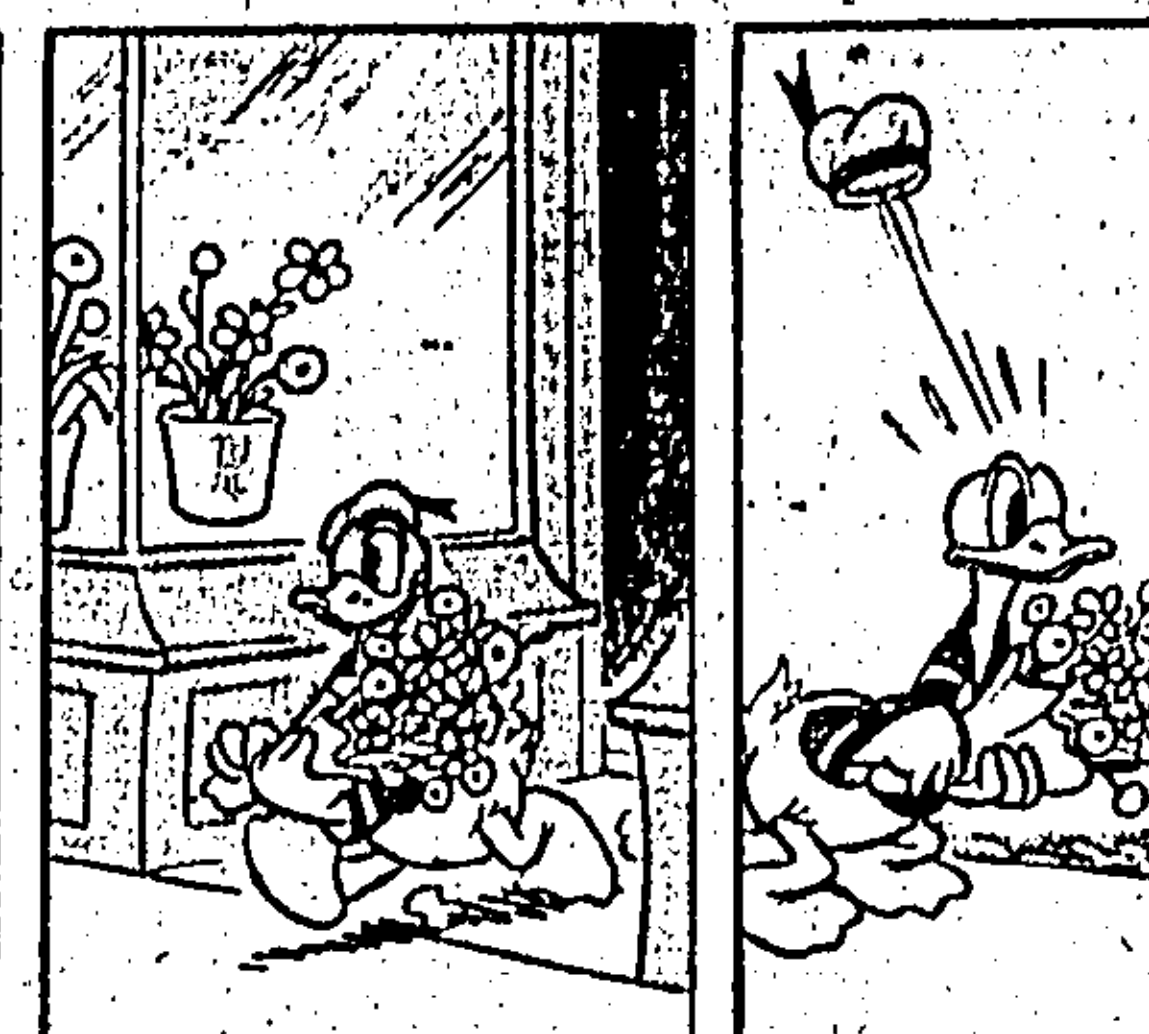
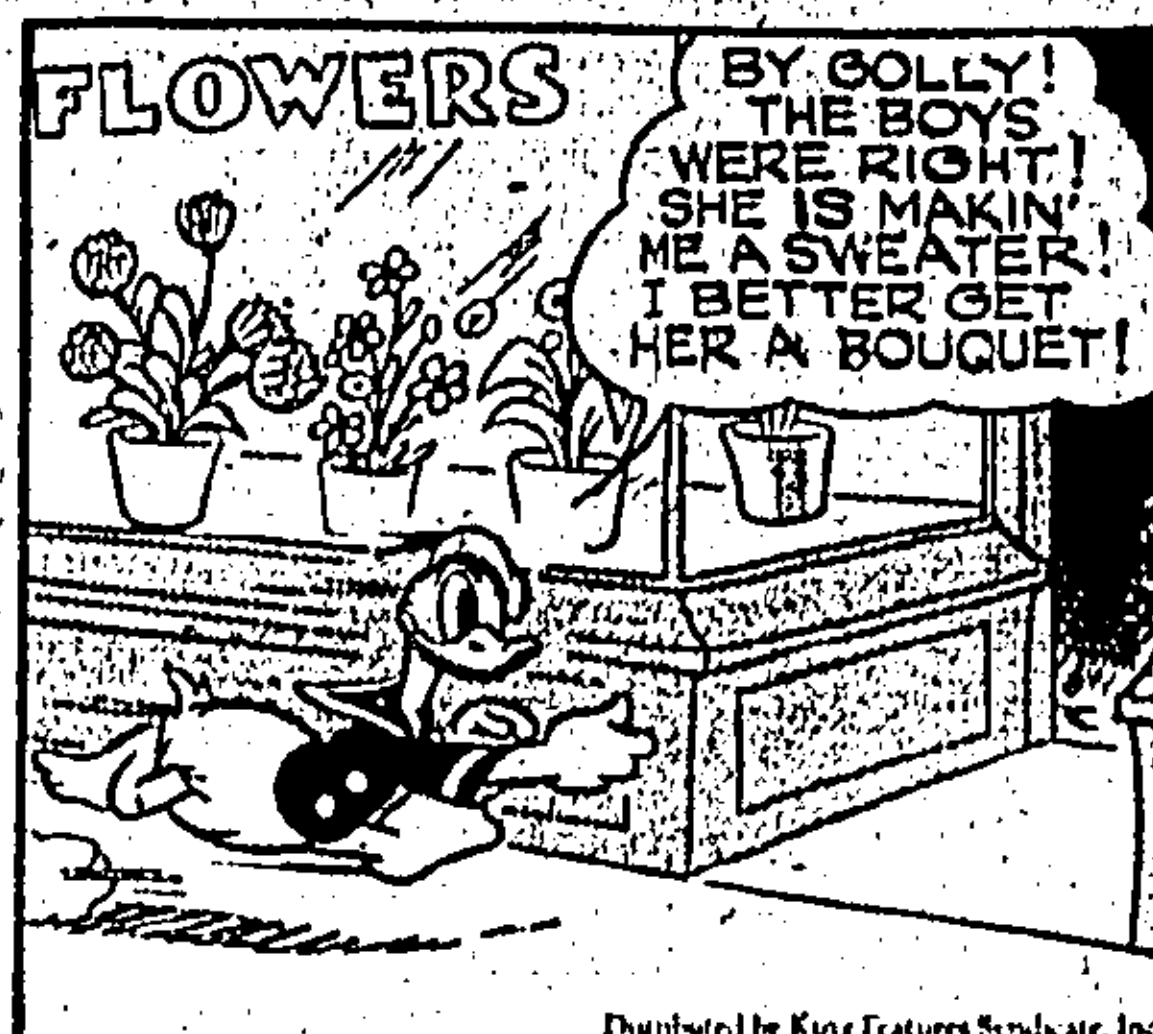
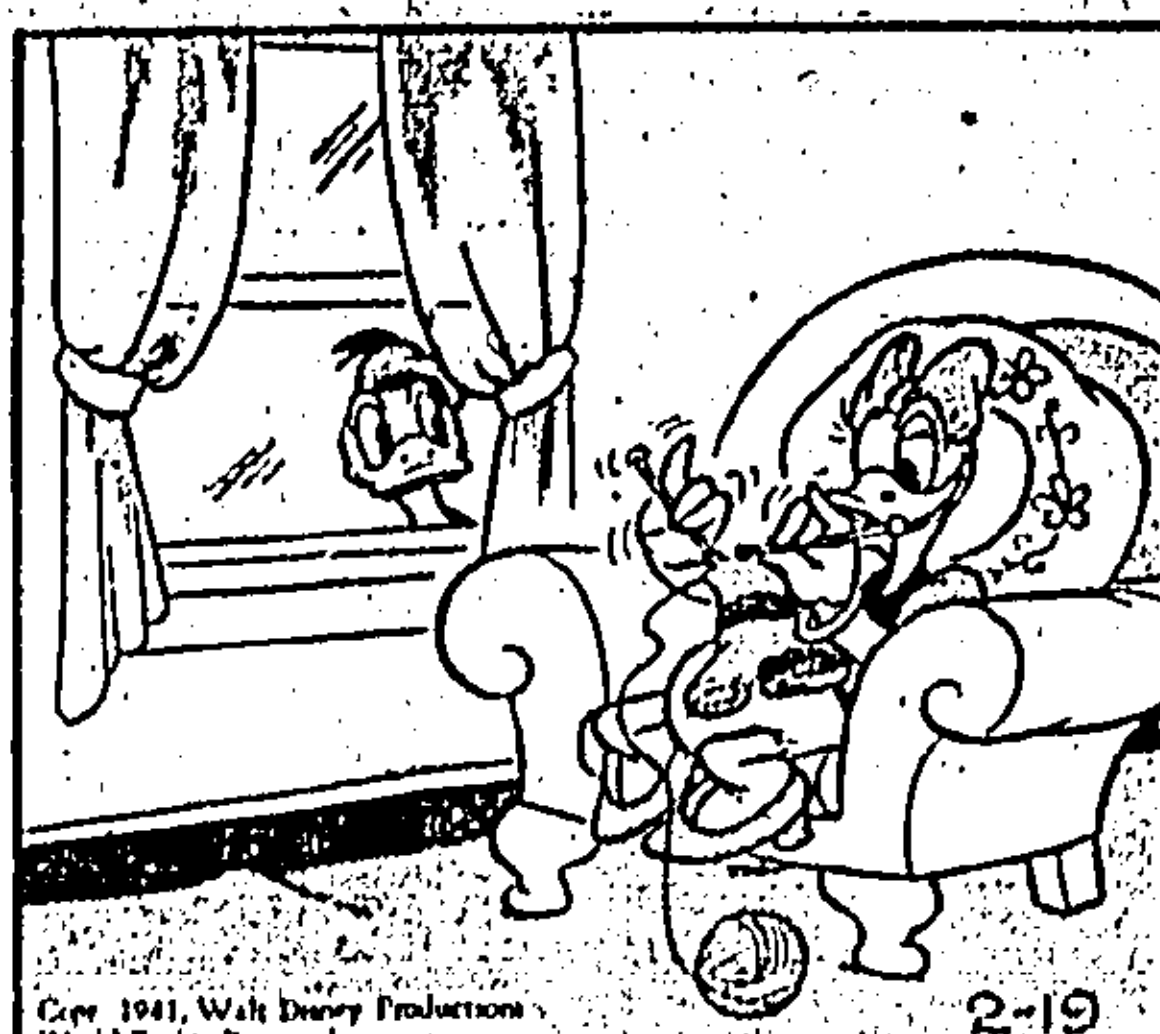
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GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"We could try an invasion there on April 16th, the opening day of the baseball season in America—then it wouldn't get much notice in the papers."

In this, the Third Article in Our New Series:

OUR GREAT NEW ARMY

H. V. MORTON describes his visit to the "Young Soldiers"

I AM able to say that the War Office is giving careful thought to the grievances of the Young Soldiers Battalions. What these grievances are I shall explain in the course of this article.

First, let me explain what a Young Soldiers Battalion is, and how these units came into being. Their history is a curious one.

Before the War, Territorial battalions formed companies of old soldiers known as National Defence Companies, who had no peace-time duties or organisation but were to be called up on the outbreak of war to guard water-works, bridges, tunnels, aerodromes, military stores and power stations.

The age of enlistment in these companies was from 45 to 55, and at first only ex-soldiers were accepted.

training before he automatically joins the Army at the age of twenty.

I visited a juvenile battalion, which wears the badge of a famous London regiment, and is stationed on the outskirts of a garrison town.

I found the headquarters in a pleasant suburban mansion hidden from the main road by trees.

Here I met the adjutant, and the second in command, both as keen as mustard on training young lads to be soldiers. Then I met the colonel, who was a good man for the job, I thought.

His expression could change in a second from that of a stern parent about to discipline his son to that of a benevolent uncle about to part with half a crown.

"See My Battalion"

"If you wish to see my battalion, instead of talking about it," he said, "you'll have to travel round the countryside, for the boys are scattered all over the place on guard duty."

I asked if that was their normal position, and he replied, yes, unfortunately it was.

Owing to the intensive training going on in the district, it was not possible for older troops to be found for such duties, with the result that the young soldiers have to do them.

He had consequently never seen his battalion on parade, and knew it only as a number of scattered detachments.

Mere Sentries

I said that while this was unfortunate for him it must be particularly unfortunate for the boys themselves, who had joined the Army of their own free will in order to become efficient soldiers by the time they were called up, and, instead, found themselves turned into permanent sentries.

"Well, you must judge for yourself," said the colonel with a smile that was like five shillings in the school holidays; by which I gathered that I had not displeased him. Accompanied by the second in command, I set off in one of those chromatic Austin Sevens, which the Army has tried to disguise as a bit of open country.

We came to general headquarters, where, with a sweep of his hand, the major indicated a wide flight of steps at the top of which stood two sentries who looked as though they had been blown over from Buckingham Palace.

They were about six feet in height, and the hideous garment, known (thanks, surely, to some melodramatic tailor) as "bottle-dress," had been pressed into smartness; toe-caps shone as the Guards shine them, and every bit of webbing was blanched, and all the buckles gleamed.

East and West

"Two of our lads," said the major. "We are very proud of finding the headquarters guard."

We mounted the steps, where I talked to the young giant on the left.

"Where do you come from?" I asked. "Hackney," he replied sternly but unobtrusively.

"How old are you?" "Nineteen next birthday," he said, giving the last word its true Cockney value.

"Are your people safe?" "So far."

I spoke to the young giant on the right.

Back To Khaki

When War came, these old soldiers turned up with great eagerness to be put on khaki again and were formed into "Groups" composed of four or more companies under a Lieut-Colonel, who was called the "Group Commander."

This organisation was found to be imperfect and so in November 1939, the existing groups were formed into Battalions, known as the Home Defence Battalions, and as such they functioned as guards all over the country.

No one has ever praised those old soldiers for the work they did in critical and anxious times last year, or for the way they stood up to the hard winter of January and February.

Men who commanded them and came into contact with them tell me that they were magnificent.

However, despite their courage and cheerfulness, the surprising spectacle was observed, so often prophesied in military song, of those old soldiers gradually "fading away."

And they faded away as the result of age, illness, and old wounds.

Old Bill dragged himself to the water-works with heroic regularity, but, alas, his rheumatics, plus the "Blighty one" he got at Festubert, made it necessary for him to retire reluctantly into civil life.

When those old soldiers had been discharged, the supply ceased, and it was decided to fill the gaps with young volunteers between the ages of 18 and 20.

That was not a happy idea, and the mixing of old and young together was not satisfactory; therefore on September 10, 1940, the Young Soldiers Battalions were formed by removing from the Home Defence Battalions all the lads of 18 to 20.

Thus the Young Soldiers Battalions were born; phoenix-like, from the ashes of the old soldiers battalions.

And they remain to-day the only organisation which can give a boy two years' military

Crossword Puzzle

By LARS MORRIS

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
21				22			23			
24				25			26			
27				28			29			
30				31			32			
33				34			35			
36				37			38			
39				40			41			
42				43			44			
45				46			47			

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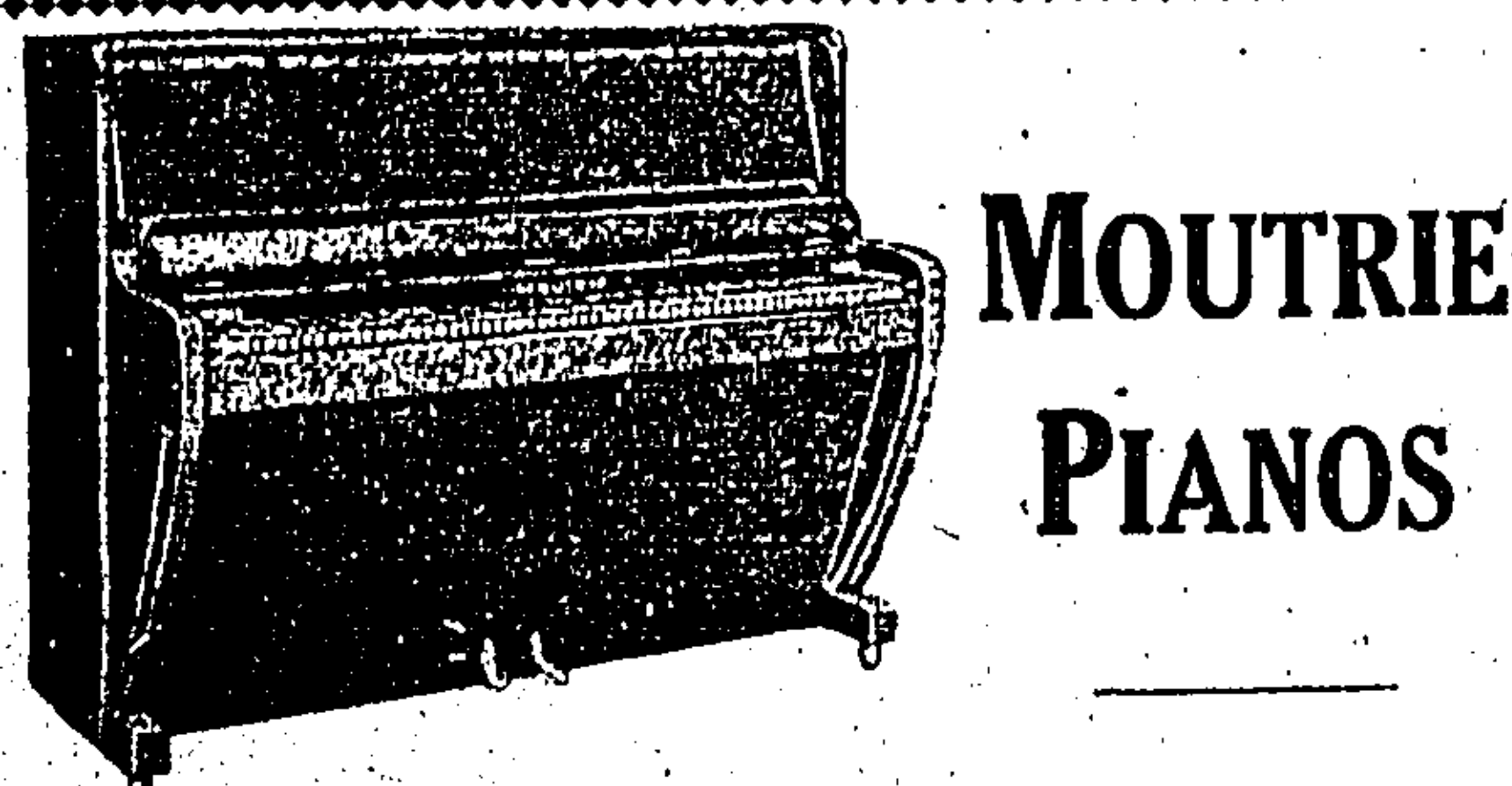
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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The family of Mr. Lau King Tsing beg to thank all relatives and friends for their kind sympathy in their recent sad bereavement, also for floral tributes and attendance at the funeral.

The
Hongkong Telegraph.

Tuesday, April 1, 1941.
Wyndham St., Hongkong
Telephone: 20015

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PAUSE TO PONDER

THE programme of Mr. Matsukata's tour of Axis Europe has been admirably punctuated by Britain and her Allies and friends. He arrived in a gaily-belliged Berlin as King Peter overthrew the pro-Axis Government of Yugoslavia, and is now visiting Mussolini as the victorious British stream into Abyssinia from all sides and the sound of the Royal Navy's guns sound a burial roll for five more Italian warships.

The Japanese Foreign Minister could have arrived at no worse moment from Hitler's point of view. The Japanese are realists; their ideological support of the "New Order" has never submerged their practical ambitions. Recently the Premier's words that Japan could never become a totalitarian nation were reaffirmed.

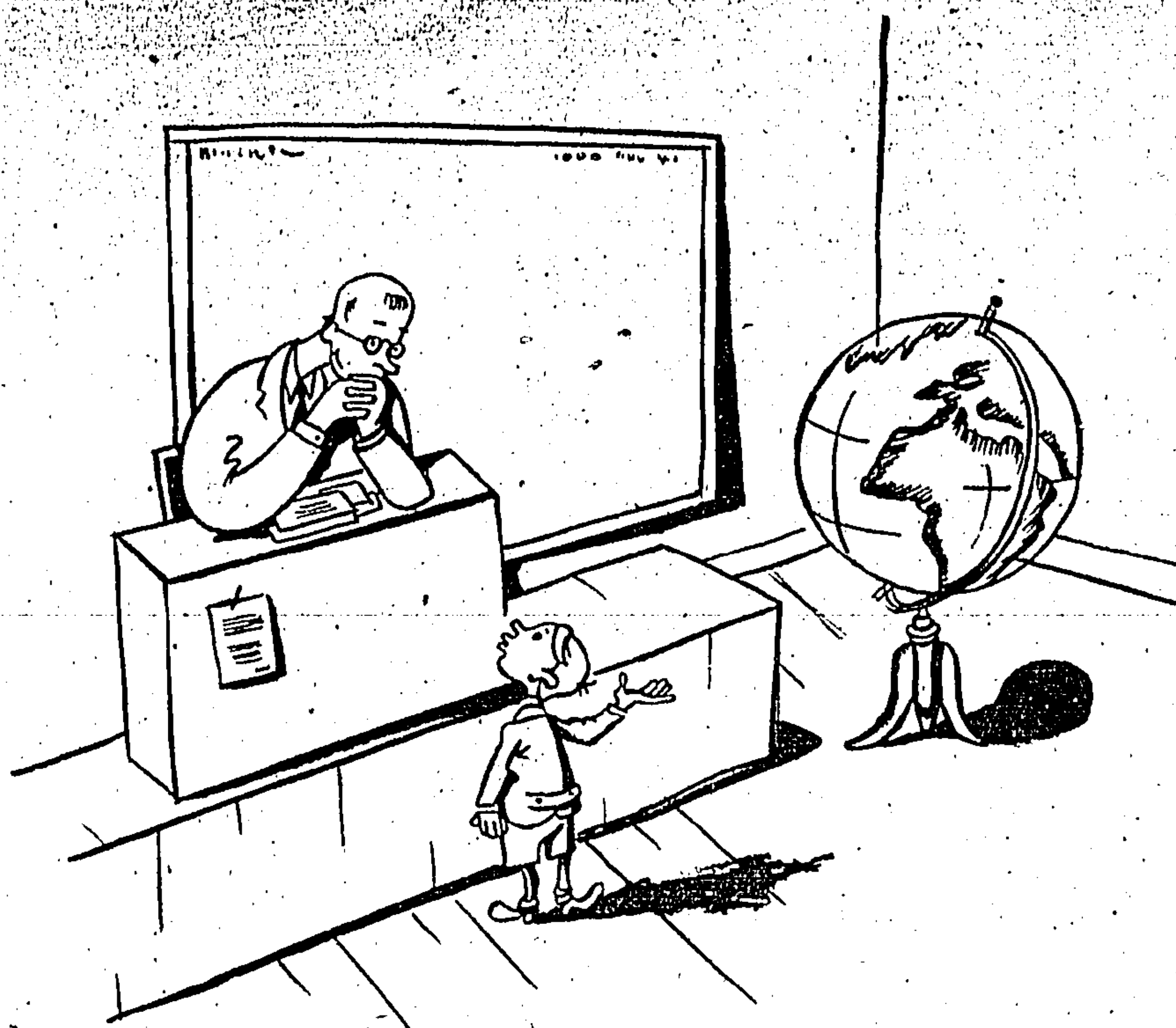
That Japanese native ideology is suffering an eclipse as war aims are blunted on the mainland of Asia is evidenced by the almost farcical collapse of the National Salvation Organisation. This body fell down on its programme of impulsively sweeping all industrial and private means together in one great effort to achieve the Imperial Way. The immediate aim, termination of the war in China or embarkation on the southward expansion, was not stated, but the prime initiators of the movement evidently had in mind a death or glory plan which was too desperate to appeal to the cold bloc of Japanese industrialists.

The N.S.A. still lives, shorn of many of its first fanatics but the transformation has proved the existence of the powerful influence wielded by temperate and realistic elements. It is a sign, one hopes, that Tokyo is facing the future more soberly; there has certainly been less dash and fire in the pronouncements of her leading statesmen lately.

A radio commentary over the week-end suggested that Stalin, at Hitler's insistence, would sign a non-aggression pact with Japan for the cession of the whole of Sakhalin Island, a large part of Korea and a few other things

BLITZKRIEG OR BLITZCRASH?

By Billiken



"Now Tommy, what do you understand by the term Blitzkrieg?"
"It's a word invented by the Nazis, Sir, for sending planes to England to be shot down!"

STALIN'S FOREIGN POLICY IN 1940

Waiting For 'Something to Turn Up'

By
A. Masloff

The year 1940 was one of waiting in Stalin's foreign policy, in spite of the apparently great successes of the opening of the year. In the coming phase of the war, if only on account of Asiatic questions, the Russian factor may be of great importance; it is worth while, therefore, to consider the results of Russian foreign policy in 1940.

At the beginning of the year Russia was occupied with the concluding stages of her Finnish adventure, which had been an interruption in the Stalin policy of non-participation in the war and waiting for its outcome—in the expectation of a long and exhausting struggle in Europe—and of building up a third coalition, especially in Asia.

Since the end of 1939 Stalin had had to cut out both items of this policy: he had had to give up the idea of any rapid Asiatic coalition, whether in the Near East, where Turkey had simply declined to go his way, or in the Far East, where Japan's weakness and China's toughness were so great that while coquetting with the idea of an understanding with Japan he was compelled to support Chiang Kai-shek; and so he was brought, whether he liked it or not, into a virtual coalition with Britain and the United States.

The Finnish adventure was brought to a close with a peace which had its contradictory elements. Diplomatically the

enabling Japan to use her best troops from the northern borders for service elsewhere. Opinion is more inclined to the view that Japan will hold all she has in the north and will postpone any ambitions she has in the south until the war in Europe has taken a definite turn. To realistic Japan, Britain's naval and military successes, and her dour resistance to air bombing must mean a great deal. It will be surprising if Hitler has wrung from Mr. Matsukata anything more potent than anti-British gesture.

peace was a success for Stalin. Outward forms were preserved by the course of the war. Her towards a conquered enemy, economic course has thus been and a small one at that, and it was possible to maintain the fiction that the war had been fought only for an improvement of Russia's land frontier. Militarily the war was a technical success for Russia, since the supposedly impregnable Mannerheim Line had been pierced; but from an historical and even a strategical point of view it had been a defeat, because—the true purpose of quality that was at issue but had simply been to profit by the fact that the country's belligerent coalitions to take big centrally and bureaucratically embarrasment of the two organised economic system was conquests on his own account and at last to reach the Atlantic Ocean.

In this aim he failed completely. Not Stalin but Hitler commands the Norwegian Atlantic coast, and Stalin's Finnish successes were insignificant alongside those of Hitler in Scandinavia.

In the Balkans, while Stalin pursued a policy of slow and cautious efforts at penetration (apart from the annexation of Bessarabia), trying to profit by the methods which had brought him success in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia, German foreign policy forcibly blocked his way in Rumania and Hungary. It gained further ground in Bulgaria, and within the Russian Foreign Office the pro-German elements won the upper hand, causing Molotov's journey to Berlin. But Molotov's whole attitude in Berlin was governed by the tragic results for Italy, and so for her "loyal" partner Germany, of the Greek campaign. It may be that in the course of the two days' journey from Moscow to Berlin the whole purpose of this visit was changed by directions from Moscow—in other words, from Stalin himself, whose Minister of Agriculture, but in any case the purpose of the journey was only "tactical"—Stalin meant to go on waiting, ed in a discreet comparison in the zigzag policy and the press and wireless with the German efforts made in the Russian man average wheat yield—2,200 Foreign Office in the summer of kilograms a hectare.

To discover "definitely" whether the German coalition was going to be victorious have evidently been broken off; their 15 to 16 per cent increase. It advocate, Dekanozoff, was shift- remains to be seen what next editor that very reason and sent month's conference will say, or to Berlin. Stalin is once more fail to say, about this.

on the fence, particularly in regard to Asia, where Moscow's one concern is, of course, what the United States intends to do.

Russia's internal and economic policy has, of course, been determined by this foreign policy and the course of the war. Her conservative rather than progressive. This is no paradox. To any careful observer it has been perfectly clear that the end of the second Five-year Plan of Russia's economic development to a critical point. Early in the working of the third Five-year Plan great technical and trading difficulties made their appearance. On the surface they were concerned with quality, but in reality it was not quality that was at issue but the fact that the country's belligerent coalitions to take big centrally and bureaucratically embarrasment of the two organised economic system was conquests on his own account and at last to reach the Atlantic Ocean.

The war and Russia's non-participation in it rescued Stalin's Ministers from their economic perplexities, but there is no concealing that the quality of almost all goods produced is poor, the quantity is below the planned figure, and there can be no question of further rapid progress, even on the patient paper of reports and statistics.

On December 30 Benediktov, the Commissar for Agriculture published a statement in "Pravda" which fully bears out what has here been suggested. He wrote in entirely general terms of "successes" in agriculture, but specified nothing, apart from a few extensions of the area under certain sorts of wheat and potatoes.

A "victory report" issued earlier by his commissariat said that in the Kuban territory, one of Russia's best wheat-producing areas, sixteen (sixteen!) out of several thousand collective farms established a "record" by bringing in 1,600 kilograms of wheat per hectare (roughly 12 cwt. per acre). The comment by directions from Moscow—in other words, from Stalin himself, whose Minister of Agriculture, but in any case the purpose of the journey was only "tactical"—Stalin meant to go on waiting, ed in a discreet comparison in the zigzag policy and the press and wireless with the German efforts made in the Russian man average wheat yield—2,200 Foreign Office in the summer of kilograms a hectare.

The official figures of production in the Russian engineering industry talk at present of some month's conference will say, or to Berlin. Stalin is once more fail to say, about this.

Arithmetic Without Tears

By
John Craigie

CONSCIENTIOUSLY clearing my attic in accordance with Governmental instruction, I came across some well-thumbed school-books of an age long past.

I believe it is a matter for congratulation and pride in the teaching profession that educational methods are not as they were in earlier generations, that mental pabulum for the young is now garnished and served up in much more attractive form than in former days.

But is this so? I gingerly opened one dust-covered volume on arithmetic, expecting it to contain the usual dismal collection of exercises, and was agreeably surprised to find that the subject was presented in a highly diverting way, and that in the process of working the sums the pupils must have gleaned a considerable amount of miscellaneous information. Much of this appeared to be useless, but perhaps not more so than some of the instruction given to-day. It was certainly a laudable effort at arithmetic without tears!

Paisley Economics

Here are one or two exercises culled at random from the book, which was published over a hundred years ago and was expressly "Designed for the use of young Ladies."

"Baubee.—This is a word used in the Northern counties, and particularly in Scotland, for a hilly country. A multitude of women, and very many girls, are employed in the cotton works at Paisley. Many of the principal manufacturers, having made considerable fortunes, have built elegant houses, and several of them pay individually £500 sterling a week to their workpeople."

"Suppose there should be as many of these modest manufacturers in Paisley as there are calendar months in the year, how many baubees would they all pay in that space of time to their respective dependants; and how many parcels, each containing as many baubees as there are degrees in the circumference of the earth at the equator, could be made up out of the entire number?"

For those who wish to check their effort, the answer is given as 140,700,000 baubees; 410,000 parcels.

Again, how many of us would solve this simple sum without consulting an appropriate work of reference?

The Duke of Bedford, father to the virtuous Lord Russell, who fell an innocent victim to the lotteries of party rage, offered a hundred thousand pounds to save his son's life. Divide this sum into as many parts as there are zones on the earth, and you will have the number of Muses and Graces in fabulous history."

A Strange Medley

It had never occurred to me that the exploits of highwaymen could be featured in arithmetic texts; I think a few exercises of the following type would have a marked appeal to the youth of to-day:—

"One, Nicholas, having committed a robbery at Rochester, in Kent, about 4 in the morning, and suspecting himself recognised by the party robbed, made for Gravesend, where he ferried over the Thames and rode to work with such speed that, as was attested by the chief magistrate at his trial, he appeared on the bowling-green in that city at 8 o'clock the same morning, which circumstance, so credibly and solemnly vouched, occasioned his acquittal, the jury judging it to be impossible for the same horse to bear the same man so long a journey in 16 hours. The distance is computed at 214 miles; supposing his horse was to have rested on the road for the space of 2 hours, what was the average expedition of every other hour?"

And, in order that his pupils should have no false notion of the speed of horses, the author considerably adds:—

"B.—One of the fleetest race-horses ever known was Childers, who ran 7420 yards, the space of one of the Newmarket horse-races, in 7½ minutes; which is at the amazing rate of more than 3½ miles in an hour. And so, in those pre-eroline days, the young ladies picked up tips on "form" even from their school-books. As far as I am concerned, it is the only "arithmetic" that has ever provided me with any entertainment, and I have no qualms of conscience in giving it a reprieve from the salvage dump."

SHELTERERS' TEN COMMANDMENTS

Ten commandments have been issued to London's shelterers by the Regional Commissioners. They are:


- (1) No litter.
- (2) No bribes for booking places.
- (3) No animals, birds or perambulators, no furniture or bedding, except portable stools, or covering and cushions.
- (4) No entry to full shelters.
- (5) No disturbance when entering or leaving. "Drunks" and "unclean" barred.
- (6) No marks to be made or bills fixed.
- (7) No interference with lights.
- (8) No smoking, singing or playing any musical instrument; begging or collecting money; selling any article or distributing advertising matter.
- (9) No dangerous or offensive articles may be taken in.
- (10) Anyone suffering from an infectious illness may be asked to leave.

Special rules apply to reserved shelters forbidding entrance to non-ticket holders and prohibiting the use of another person's entrance ticket.

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A black and white advertisement for Pepsodent toothpaste. The top half features the brand name 'PEPSODENT' in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Above it, the phrase 'Insist on' is written in a cursive script. To the right of the brand name, 'TOOTH PASTE with IRIUM' is printed in bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below this text, a tube of Pepsodent toothpaste is shown diagonally, with the brand name and 'IRIUM' visible on its label. To the right of the tube is a small, dark container of Pepsodent tooth powder, also labeled 'PEPSODENT'. The bottom half of the advertisement contains a block of text starting with 'Of all Tooth Pastes and Powders' and 'ONLY PEPSEODENT CONTAINS IRIUM', followed by a paragraph describing the benefits of the Irium ingredient. At the very bottom, the text 'Ask for PEPSEODENT TOOTH PASTE or TOOTH POWDER' is printed in bold, sans-serif capital letters.

"R. Abbit's" Cricket Comments

Rain Again Spoils Week-end

Recreio Saved Against Indians: Local Interest Definitely On The Wane

THE CRICKET SEASON was yet further ruined by the weather on Saturday last when, after light rain about four, there was a perfect deluge about five o'clock. Apart from the Police and University in the Junior League where the former team made such short work of their opponents that they got the match over before being flooded out there was nothing doing.

There seems to me no earthly chance of finishing the First Division programme and I strongly recommend those interested to scrap all programmes and play off K.C.C. v. Civil Service on the first fine Saturday.

I went along to deal with the C.S.C.C. v. Varsity match at the Valley only to find it had been cancelled.

There is something pretty rotten in the cricket out here at present and unless more enthusiasm is shown I don't know what is going to happen to the game. I admit the weather difficulties but it is more than that.

I AM inclined to think that the Recreio with a somewhat depleted team might quite probably have been beaten on Saturday last but for the rain. The conditions were never good and the I.R.C. had to struggle for runs.

Had Ozorio, who bowled excellently, been able to get good support from the other end, a very different story might have been told, but the I.R.C. batsmen hung on and six of them got double figures, K. M. Rumjahn heading the list with 25 runs. The total of 110 was very modest and, had Eddie Gosano been there to bowl opposite Ozorio, (they are a splendid contrast), I think it would have been very much smaller.

The Recreio started poorly but rain intervened. They suffer from the fact that both Jerry and Zinho Gosano have been on the injured list, and I am afraid that they are tending rather towards the multiplicity of games which has spoilt many a promising young player here.

League Match Finished

THE Police showed a flash of their last year's form when they beat the University second eleven, which had been obliged to include one or two of fairly regular first eleven players.

Apart from Matthews (26) and T. Chin (14) the highest score was 3, and they were all out for 58! White took 6 for 35 and Carey 4 for 18.

The Police had time to hit off the runs before the deluge burst—one of the heaviest I have seen for some

SPORTS ADVT.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Draft Programmes and Entry Forms for the Third Extra Race Meeting to be held (weather permitting) on Saturday, 12th, and Monday, 14th April, 1941, may be obtained from the Secretary's Office, Exchange Building; the Club House, Happy Valley; the Hong Kong Club; the Sports Club; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on THURSDAY, 3rd April, 1941.

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Eastern Beat Combd Manila Universities

MANILA, Mar. 31 (UPI).

The Eastern Football Club from Hongkong defeated the picked stars from the Letran and San Thomas Universities 4-2 in a football match to-day. Hau Ching-to scored two of the goals.

The Hongkong XI lead 2-0 at half-time, but the local team scored twice in quick succession in the early minutes of the second half, after which period the Chinese regained the superiority and went through on two more occasions to register goals.

Kotewall Cup Final On Saturday

The Kotewall Cup final between the Army and South China will be played on the Navy ground, Causeway Bay, at 4.30 p.m. on Saturday. Proceeds from the match will be devoted to charity.

time at the Valley—and Hunter's 34 not out was a valuable factor in their first victory.

Draw At K.C.C.

THE principle feature of the drawn game at K.C.C. was a bright innings of 64 by Ainslie made in three quarters of an hour.

Ainslie has shown much promise this season and has several excellent performances to his credit both with bat and ball. Unfortunately, he has a habit of interlarding these bright patches with a series of complete failures. It is a thing he will grow out of, given patience and plenty of practice.

The C.S.C.C. got to 123 which was not likely to have been good enough in fine weather, but the rain saved them. All these unfinished matches have to be replayed, according to the rules. I wonder if they will be?

Club Game

THERE was the usual Army and Club friendly at H.K.C.C. Alec Pearce who skipped the Army side which included G. J. P. Carey and E. W. Pudney.

Thanks to one of Pearce's brilliant centuries against some not very strong bowling the Army ran up 180 for 6 declared. D. S. Robb's XI looked like collapse when the rain came.

ANOTHER WASH-OUT

THE R.A.O.C. played the I.R.C. second eleven and the game met the usual fate. Storer, who does a great deal of secretarial work for Army cricket, retired with his score at 54, and in all the military side run up 150 for 7 declared. I.R.C. had one for 31 when the game terminated.

A SCHOOL GAME

THE Craigengower second eleven play a good many school games, and on Saturday last they had quite a good game with St Joseph's College. They made 118 only, and it would have been a close thing as M. A. Webb made 46, and the school had 65 for six wickets.

These games are excellent for our young cricketers while still at school and I take off my hat to the Clubs who organise them.

ARMY CRICKET

I SEE that the Sappers pulled off the Army competition, unless I have entirely misread the book, but there seems to be a Small Units final down for this week.

I only wish that I could sink out of my office to see a bit of the game between the A.A. and R.A.S.C. It will be interesting to see if the two Peaces come off for the A.A. as so often our better players fall when turning out for junior teams.

Pagh-Umetani Match Finally Brought To An End

Brilliant Badminton At Kowloon C.C.

M. P. Yoong Beats Hooi In Great Match

(By "Tinker")

Words seem so inadequate when required to describe a match such as that between M. P. Yoong and P. K. Hooi in the Badminton Championships at the Kowloon C.C. last night. Skill and unconquerable determination blended to make the game one which outshone most others ever played in the Colony.

In the two games that were completed, each was set and Hooi lost only by the narrowest margin, while in the third game, Yoong was forced to retire for a short while owing to cramp in the stomach which was attended by a vomiting spell. This was actually the second game, after he had won the first, and he conceded it to Hooi when the score was 11-5 in Hooi's favour.

Results at a glance were:

SENIOR SINGLES

M. P. Yoong beat P. K. Hooi 17-14, 5-11, 17-15.
K. W. Choy beat W. Gillies 15-3, 15-1.

JUNIOR SINGLES

J. Odell beat H. S. Jones 15-5, 15-12.
J. L. Anderson beat E. Zimmerman 15-0, 15-7.

JUNIOR DOUBLES

T. S. Young and M. K. Fung beat Peter Lo and J. Tsang 18-17, 15-7.

Brilliant Victory

THE YOONG-HOOI match was the match of the evening. Yoong led 0-0 in the first game before Hooi commenced on his back-to-the-wall fight that was the outstanding feature of the whole match. Offsetting Yoong's control over the shuttle with accuracy that found the corners in several occasions, Hooi kept up 9-3, 10-8, 11-3 and finally took the lead at 14-11.

Hooi settled at three, and with Yoong leading 2-0 service changed hands several times before the latter collected the winning point.

Marvellous Recovery

HIS RECOVERY in the third game was marvellous. One anticipated that Hooi, who was playing like a champion, would walk over his handicapped opponent, but there was no handicap apparent when Yoong opened up.

He led 6-2, 7-3, 9-3 and the Hooi again worked back again into 8-9 down. The score went 11-8, 11-10, 12-0, 13-10 and finally 14-11 in Yoong's favour.

Each point kept the large crowd of spectators on the edge of their seats, and, in fact, in the midst of one particularly thrilling rally they could not forbear to cheer while the shuttle was still in flight.

From 14-11, Hooi crept up 14-12, 14-13 and finally 14-11. Yoong settled at three and at all service changed hands four times before Yoong scored his two points with fine cross court shots.

K. W. Choy Supreme

ON last night's and previous exhibitions, there does not seem to be anyone in Hongkong who is likely to deprive K. W. Choy of the Colony Singles Championship. His opponent yesterday, W. Gillies, though a great trier, was out-played in every department.

Choy's deceptive wrist work, his extremely powerful control, and his amazing shuttle control go to the make-up of a badminton player that any Colony would be proud to acknowledge as its champion.

It might sound a little premature, but on form all indications are in that direction. Enthusiasts can nevertheless be sure that the inter-games in the Senior Singles are going to be of a standard never seen before in Hongkong.

Referees' Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Hongkong Football Referees' Association will be held at the Hotel Cecil at 8 p.m. to-day. The speaker will be Mr. Wong Ka-lun, Chairman of the Hongkong Football Association.

THOUGH at one time it appeared that the match was again going to be postponed, M. Pagh eventually eliminated O. Umetani in the Colony Singles Tennis Championship at the Hongkong C.C. yesterday in three sets. Scores were 4-6, 14-12, 6-3.

The crowd of spectators were thoroughly entertained with the standard which never dropped throughout the match. The ground was heavy and slippery, and shots were consequently difficult to make. In this, however, the odds were in favour of the Japanese who was far the lighter on his feet.

But the marathon second set should never have gone that distance. Decisions generally were doubtful, and though they were dispensed with cheerful impartiality, two in particular fell very heavily on Pagh in this second set. He won 14-12 which was just 14 games too many that were played.

The balls quickly discoloured and once again the umpire was in great difficulty, but with due respects to the linesmen concerned, I venture to say that it is impossible, especially in such a match and on ground as yesterday's, for the baselines judges to give decisions on sideline balls.

In the 12th game of the second set, with Umetani serving, the score was 15-40 when a palpable double-fault was allowed. Pagh was then leading 6-5 and should have won 7-5.

Again in the 20th game with Umetani again serving, there was a line decision given by the baselinesman against Pagh that made the players hesitate. The game eventually went to Umetani for that point made him 40-love, and though he lost two points he won the third.

However, the set went to Pagh.

Accurate Shots

THE condition of the court made tennis difficult, but both players were nevertheless in accurate form, and several shots on the deep backhand were first-class. Each was concentrating on the backhand, and in this Pagh lost several valuable

(By "Tinker")

Japanese Eliminated In Three Sets

Umetani jumped into a 3-0 lead in the first set and later increased this to 4-2. On his own service, Pagh drew up to 3-4, then Umetani again went into a two games' lead at 5-3. Once more Pagh drew nearer at 4-5, but Umetani made good use of his own service in the 10th game to win the set.

The Marathon Set

RIGHT from the word "go", the "second" set was anybody's. From one-all to 15-all. First one then the other would break through the opposing service, but scores always evenced up.

Pagh stayed on his baseline, and on the one or two occasions that Umetani advanced he was beaten by placed shots down the sidelines. There were the bad decisions already mentioned, but these were with impartial judgment.

The Final Set

PAGH jumped into a 3-0 lead in the final set when he commenced to open out a little. He scored with some really fine angled shots to the backhand that completely beat the Japanese.

Umetani struggled and reached 3-4, but on his own service lost to give Pagh a 5-3 lead.

In the final game Pagh had two set points and served a "double" into the net for the first, but on the second Umetani failed with his backhand and hit the ball into the net.

Thus ended a match that was only completed on the third attempt at playing.

To-day's Tennis

The following are to-day's matches in the Open Tennis Championships:

SINGLES

Tsui Wai-pui v. K. H. Yip.
S. A. Rumjahn v. Lieut. Shields Goodman.

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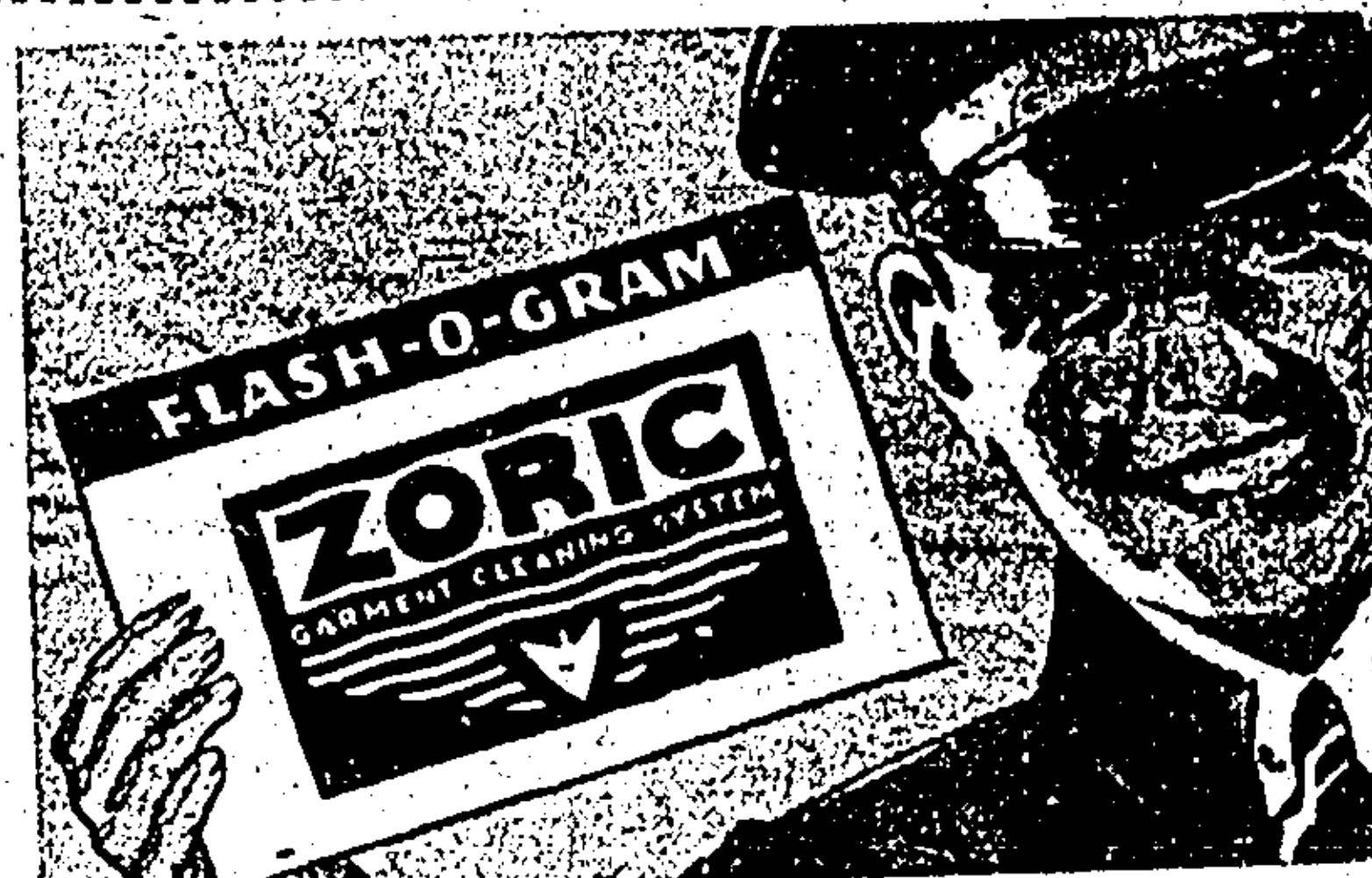
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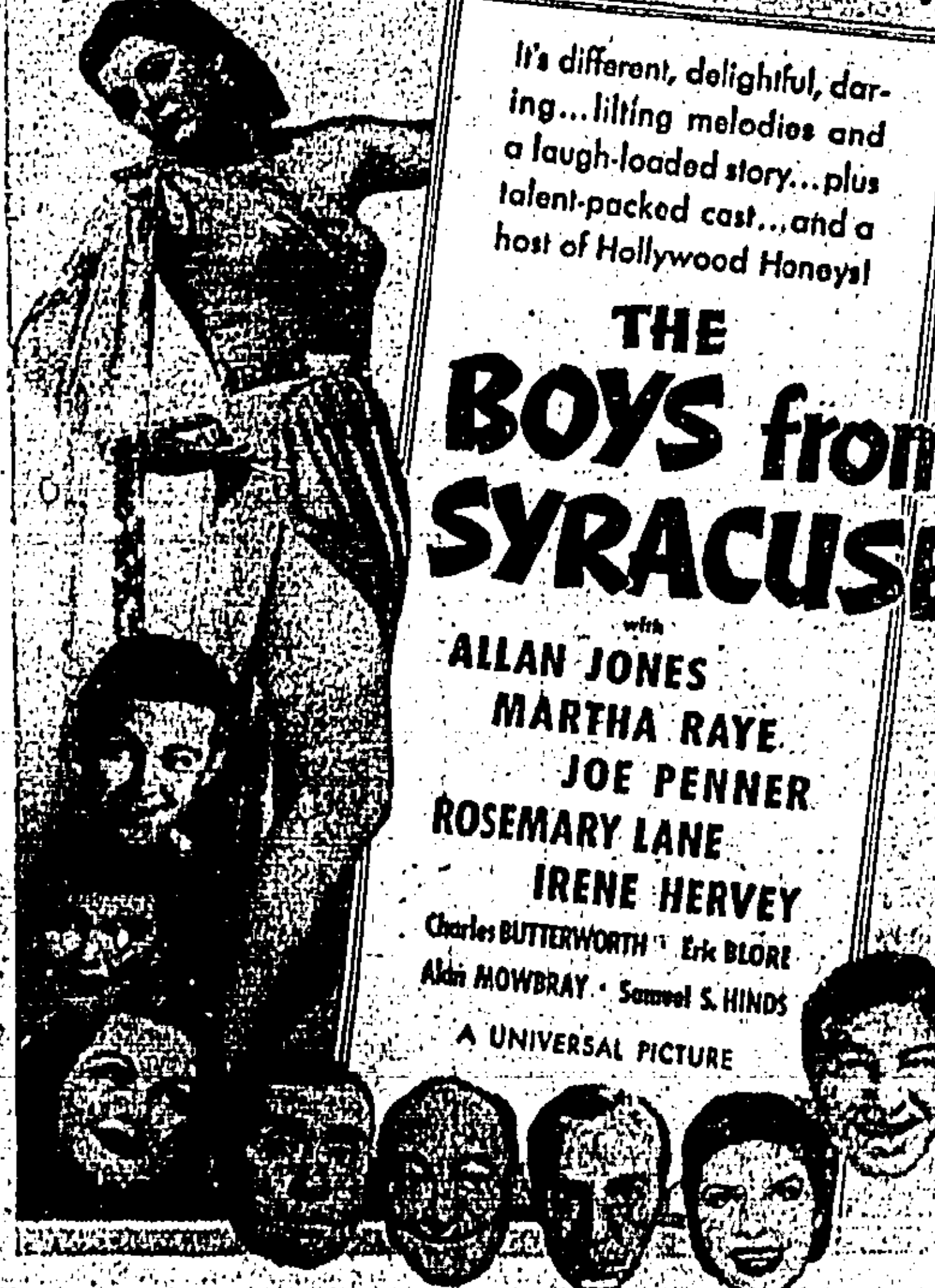
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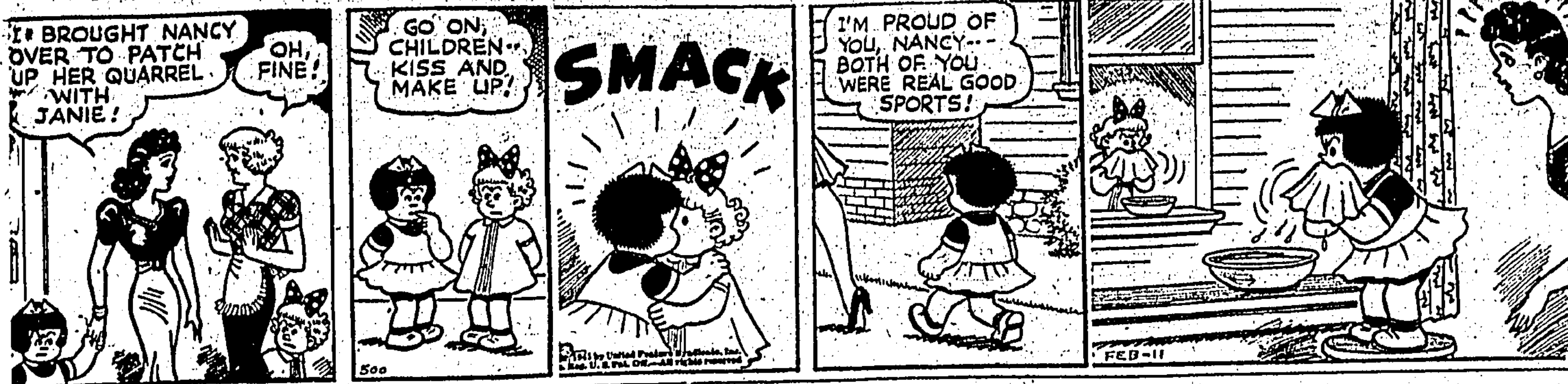
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By Ernie Bushmiller



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Wedding Unites Prominent H.K. Chinese Families

Two prominent Chinese families were united yesterday when the marriage between Miss Katharine Kam-Sheung Lee and Mr Benjamin Kwai Lau Lul took place at the Registry.

Miss Lee is the daughter of Mrs and the late Mr Lee Cheung-hing, and a sister of Messrs S. W. and K. B. Lee, the well-known Hongkong racing pony owners. Mr Lul is the son of Mr Lui Wai-chau, managing clerk of Messrs Lo and Lo.

The bridegroom is actively connected with badminton, being not only a playing member of the King's College league team, but also the team's representative on the Badminton Association Council. He is a physical instructor at King's College and the Evening Institute, holding the S.G.I. Diploma from the Swedish College of Physical Education and a Diploma of Physical Education from the Loughborough College, England.

Mr T. S. Whyte-Smith performed the ceremony at the Registry, where the bride was attended by Mrs Lee Tse-ming as Matron of Honour, Miss Dorrie Lee, the bride's sister and Miss Nani Lul, the bridegroom's sister as bridesmaids.

The Dresses

The bride was given away by her uncle Mr Lee Tse-ming. Her dress was of white French lace, cut on princess lines with high neck and long sleeves. A train of orange blossoms held her long tulle veil in place. She carried a bouquet of arm lilies. The bridesmaids wore dresses of sky blue and mauve tulle with high waists, full skirts, short puff sleeves and Juliet caps of the same materials. They carried posies of mixed spring flowers.

The groom was supported by his brother, Mr Herbert Lul, and the bride's brother, Mr Buddy Lee. Master Tony Lee, in full morning coat, and a young boy, while Miss Cheung Shiu-eh, a miniature of the bridesmaid, but in pink, was the flower girl.

Receptions

Over 800 people attended the reception at the Gloucester Hotel, where the Hon. Mr M. K. Lo presided. The Hon. Mr M. K. Lo presided. Mr Lul responding.

Last night the respective families held a reception at the Kam Loong Restaurant, where congratulations and felicitations were exchanged. Mr and Mrs Lul are spending their honeymoon at Repulse Bay.

KUOMINTANG IN SESSION

CHUNGKING, Mar. 31 (Central News).—Presided over by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and attended by 150 members, the 8th Plenary Session of the Central Executive and Supervisory Committees of the Kuomintang was opened in Chungking on March 24. During the past week, important proposals affecting Party, military, political, economic and educational affairs have been under discussion.

Following the opening ceremony, a presidium of 11 persons consisting of Messrs Wong Fa-chin, Ting Wei-feng, Chu Cheng, Yu Yu-jen, Tai Chi-tao, Lu Lu, Chen Li-fu, Li Wen-fan, Dr H. H. Kung and General Feng Yu-hsiang was appointed, with General Wu Te-chen, Minister of Overseas Affairs, as Secretary-General and Mr Kuo Nai-kung Deputy Secretary-General.

Nawab Saw Taking Of Keren

KARACHI, Mar. 31 (Reuters).—"Our boys were marvellous at Keren, where they eclipsed their own deeds at Sidi Barrani. India has every reason and every right to be proud of them," declared the Nawab of Bhopal to "Reuters" after his arrival from a tour of the Middle East where he visited Indian troops, including his own state forces.

The Nawab added: "I was very fortunate to be present at Keren when our troops stormed the town and that was my happiest day. Our boys at the front have been simply magnificent. They fought like giants—God bless them and preserve them. They are in the highest spirits, very fit and are very well looked after. I felt so proud of the Indian troops and so was the General Officer Commanding, General Platt."

Enemy Losses Over Britain

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuters).—R.A.F. fighter pilots and anti-aircraft defences destroyed enemy aircraft at an average rate of 50 a month since January 1 over and around Britain. The total "bag" for the first quarter of 1941 was 153.

Fighter Command losses for the first quarter of the year were 41 aircraft, states the Air Ministry. Quiet Night

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuters).—London had no air warning to-night. This is the eleventh quiet night running though over and around Britain to-night there was again slight activity, mainly over the north-east coast.

Raiders were reported over several other areas but up to a late hour no incidents were reported. Fighter In Channel

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuters).—An enemy fighter which ventured over the Channel to-day was destroyed by R.A.F. fighters, it was officially announced.

This is the only item of daylight air activity by the enemy which the Air Ministry has to report.

STOCK EXCHANGE

Cheerful Tendency

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuters).—On the Stock Exchange to-day there was a cheerful tendency on the naval success in the Mediterranean but the price movements were small though the market was generally firm. There was fair support for gilt-edged securities which closed slightly higher, though a trifle below the best on profit-taking.

The demand for industrial broadened while home rails and Kaf-fis met some demand. Greeks and Japanese bonds were higher among the foreign issues. Wall Street was quietly firm.

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3. Finale Grand Military Tattoo Rogan

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SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Hilo & San Francisco			
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NEW YORK via Japan & Panama			
*Azuma Maru	Monday	14th Apr.	
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila			
Suwa Maru	Saturday	20th Apr.	
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo			
*Toyooka Maru	Wednesday	2nd Apr.	
Hakone Maru	Friday	11th Apr.	
RANGOON & COLOMBO via Singapore			
*Hakodate Maru	Tuesday	1st Apr.	
Matsumoto Maru	Thursday	10th Apr.	
Kobe & YOKOHAMA			
*Azuma Maru	Monday	14th Apr.	
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FULL STORY OF GREATEST FIGHT

FROM PAGE ONE

report sent in on Thursday. It stated that an enemy force was steaming eastward near Cape Passaro, the southernmost tip of Sicily.

With dramatic suddenness the British Fleet sailed to contact the enemy.

Forces Sighted

On Friday morning, one battleship of the Littorio class and a force of enemy cruisers were contacted by our light forces to the south of the western end of Crete while further air reconnaissance reported a second force, comprising two battleships, cruisers and destroyers, further north.

The Fleet Air Arm and R.A.F. immediately attacked the former, seriously damaging the Littorio class battleship, reducing her speed considerably while several hits were also registered on the cruisers and destroyers.

While aircraft and light forces thus maintained contact with the enemy, who endeavoured to scatter and return to his base, the battleships followed up. They were able to make contact only as darkness fell, the chase towards the Italian shore having lasted about 12 hours and covered some 200 miles.

Warspite's Shattering Fire

The leading ship of the British battle fleet was the Warspite which opened fire with her 15-inch guns from a distance of just under two miles. The effect of the Warspite's fire was devastating. The enemy's mainmast was hit up the surrounding sea by a violent burst of red flame extending from the foremost funnel to the after gun turret.

One observer said that the after turret itself was blown clean over the side.

While the ship was thus blazing, the Warspite poured in a further broadside, causing a fresh outburst of flame. By now the entire battle fleet was in action, the whole scene being lit up by gunfire, blazing ships and searchlights.

Before the enemy had any chance to reply, a second cruiser, Zara, was burning fiercely when she received a broadside from the Warspite. A third cruiser, Pola, was likewise dealt with by the other British battleships, the whole action taking a matter of seconds.

Besides the Warspite, the battleships Barham and Valiant, and the destroyers Hawke and Greyhound participated in the action.

"Well Done"

In his "Well Done" signal to the warships on their return to port, Admiral Cunningham said: "I am most grateful to all in the Fleet for their support on this as on all other occasions. The operations just concluded have given us notable success and supremacy. The skilful handling of our cruisers and the untiring efforts of the Fleet Air Arm kept us well informed of the enemy movements and the well pressed home attacks of torpedo-bomber aircraft on the Littorio so reduced the speed of the enemy fleet that we were able to gain contact during the night and inflict heavy damage."

"The devastating results of the battleships' gunfire are ample reward for months of patient training. This work was completed by the destroyers in the admirable way we have come to expect of them."

Vittorio Veneto Damaged

ALEXANDRIA, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The enemy battleship damaged in the Mediterranean battle was the 35,000-ton Vittorio Veneto, of the Littorio class, states the captain of the sunk Italian cruiser Pola.

Cruiser Surrenders

ALEXANDRIA, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The Italian cruiser Pola surrendered to the destroyer Jervis after she had been disabled by a torpedo bomber which scored a direct hit in the engine room.

The Captain, 21 officers and 230 ratings were taken aboard the Jervis which then sank the Pola with a torpedo.

Italian Admission

ROME, Mar. 31 (UP).—To-day's war communiqué admitted that three cruisers and two destroyers were lost in the Mediterranean on March 28; however, it is claimed that the British lost heavily, although the exact nature of the losses cannot be ascertained.

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SMASHING R.A.F. ATTACK

*Nazi Battleships Hit
Special to the "Telegraph"*

LONDON, Mar. 31 (UP).—The smashing attack against the German battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau in Brest harbour last night is taken as an indication that Britain is determined that the two battleships shall not be allowed to put to sea again to menace shipping.

MATSUOKA IN ROME

*Audience With Pope
Arranged*

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—Mr. Yosuke Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, who arrived in Rome to-day by special train, was met at the station by Count Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister, and other members of the Italian Government, the Secretary of the Fascist Party and the German Ambassador.

Message To Ribbentrop

VICHY, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—Mr. Matsuoka will meet Mussolini on Tuesday. He will lunch with King Victor. His audience with the Pope will take place on Wednesday, according to a Rome dispatch.

The German radio states that Mr. Matsuoka has sent a telegram to Herr von Ribbentrop, saying: "I am sure that the conversations which we had in such a friendly atmosphere in Germany will lead to a further strengthening of the bonds between the two countries and the creation of a new order in Europe and East Asia."

Chinese Kill A Rumour

Laokai Not Entered

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
CHUNGKING, Mar. 31 (UP).—The military spokesman to-day ridiculed the Japanese rumours that Chinese troops had entered Laokai, declaring that the Japanese probably intended to occupy Laokai which is on the Amoy-Yunnan border. He pointed out that the Japanese rumours of the Chinese entry into Burma and Indo-China was never borne out by facts.

War May Result From U.S. Ship Seizures

Special to the "Telegraph"

PORT EVERGLADES, Fla., Mar. 31 (UP).—Commenting on the seizure of Italian and German ships by the United States, Captain Giovanni Polono of the Italian motor ship Leme, when interviewed at Portland, Oregon, said the United States action constituted an act of war, adding "war is likely to come as a result."

It is revealed that there was no sabotage damage aboard the German ship Arauca, but Punta Arenas reported that the Italian freighter of 6,072 and the German steamer Elsonach of 4,177 tons, which took refuge there last year, were set on fire early this morning, and it is feared they may be a total loss.

Police boarded the vessels and arrested 106 members of the crews. Mexico City reports that eleven Italian and German ships which have been berthed at Mexican ports are believed to be preparing to flee. Nine Italian ships are taking refuge at Tampico and German merchant ships from Cienfuegos reveal that Italy's ninth largest merchant

man, the Conte Binnemann, was the only passenger liner amongst the seized vessels. The officers and crew, numbering 520, including 20 women are being guarded aboard the vessel which docked at Cristobal last June.

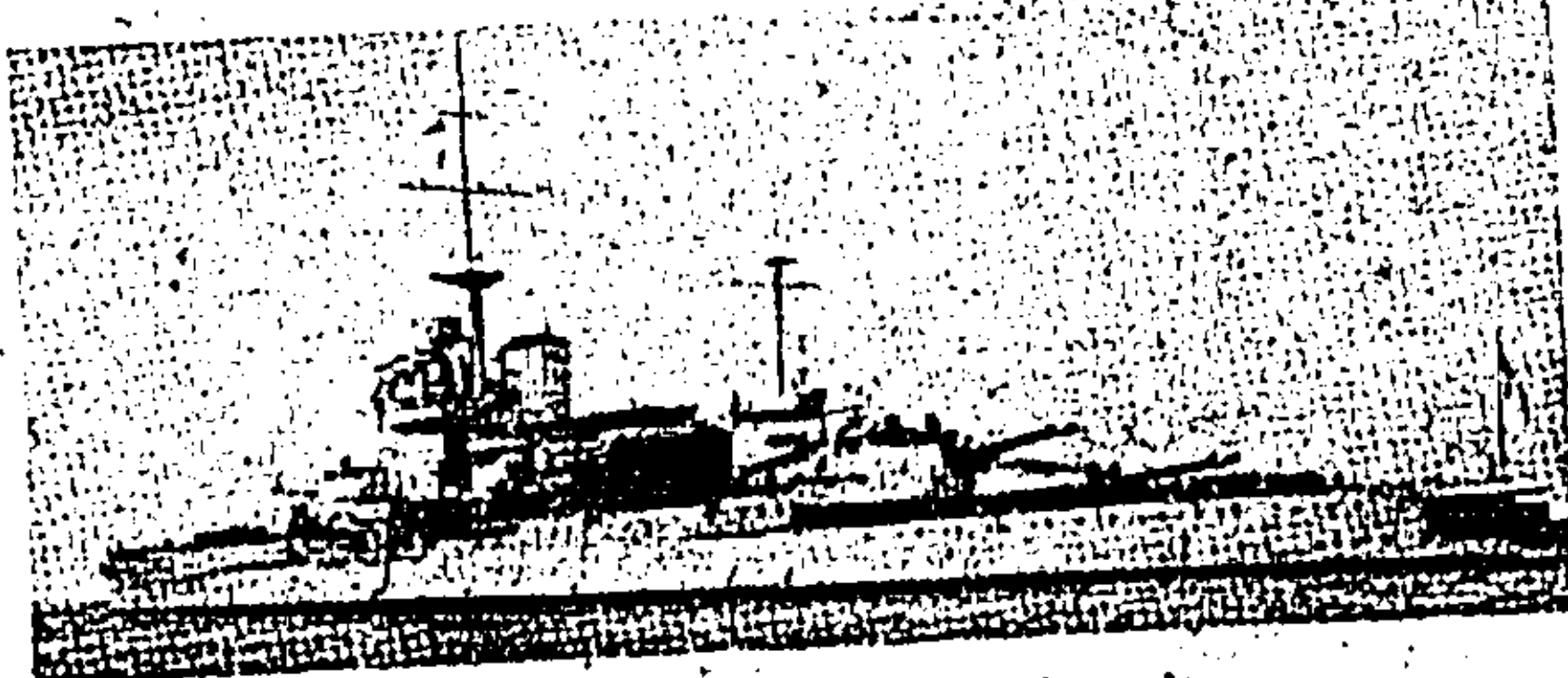
Deportation Sought
WASHINGTON, Mar. 31 (UP).—The Immigration Office to-day issued warrants for the arrest of and is instituting deportation proceedings against approximately 875 seamen who were removed from the 28 Italian and two German vessels which the United States has so far taken into custody.

Formal Protest
WASHINGTON, Mar. 31 (UP).—Italy and Germany have made formal protests against the seizure of the thirty Italian and German merchant ships by the United States.

ALEXANDRIA, MAR. 31 (UP).—ESTIMATES FROM THE BRITISH WARSHIPS WHICH PARTICIPATED IN LAST FRIDAY'S NAVAL ACTION IN THE IONIAN SEA INDICATE THAT OVER 3,000 ITALIAN OFFICERS AND SEAMEN WERE LOST IN ADDITION TO THE 900 SURVIVORS WHO ARE NOW PRISONERS OF WAR. (AN "EXCHANGE TELEGRAPH" DESPATCH FROM ATHENS SAYS THAT THE SURVIVORS INCLUDE 35 GERMAN OFFICERS AND PETTY OFFICERS.)

An Italian battleship of the Littorio class was very severely damaged, while three heavy Italian cruisers and two destroyers were definitely sunk. In addition a six-inch gun cruiser and a third destroyer were possibly sunk, in what was probably the most decisive naval engagement since Trafalgar.

In the pitch blackness, 150 miles west of Crete, three enemy cruisers appeared off the British fleet's starboard bow. The flagship Warspite opened fire with a complete broadside from her 15-inch guns reducing the cruiser Fiume to a floating hell with the first salvo.



The British battleship, Warspite.

Italian Battleship Thought To Be Sunk

Special to the "Telegraph"

ALEXANDRIA, Mar. 31 (UP).—Reports from aviators who participated in the torpedo-bombing of the Vittorio Veneto suggest that the battleship, which was the Italian Commander-in-Chief's flagship, probably sank before reaching port, as, when last seen, she was badly down by the stern.

Italian Ships Led Into Trap

Thrilling Exploit

ALEXANDRIA, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—How the Italian warships were led into a trap is now revealed. The cruiser Orion (sister-ship of the Archilles and Ajax of Graf Spee fame) contacted enemy ships and lured them towards the British battle fleet for about four hours until the enemy battleship, stated to be the 35,000-ton Vittorio Veneto, was damaged by the Fleet Air Arm.

After this, the Italians, possibly scenting a trap in the Orion's tactics, about turned. When the enemy retired, the objective of the British light forces was to try and cut off the damaged enemy battleship which was then reported about 30 miles distant heading for Italy, listing and badly down by the stern.

The British light forces carried out a circling movement at full speed in order to place themselves ahead of the enemy despite the fact that the latter was much heavier and superior in force, but no contact was made and it was found that the cruisers Fiume and Zara, which had previously been accompanying the Vittorio Veneto, had returned to help the stricken cruiser, Pola.

Meet Strong Fleet

This move either indicated that they did not realise the full strength of the distant British battle fleet or was designed to create a diversion to enable the Italian battleship to escape.

It was while the British light forces were searching for the enemy battleship that the British battle fleet, headed by the Fiume and Zara, approached the scene of the Italian cruisers. The sea was dotted with 700,000 men, some of whom were picked up by the British. The Italian ships were unable to make any further progress.

Eye-witnesses describe the fleet air arm's torpedo-bombing attack as one of the most daring ever attempted. Despite a terrific barrage from the Italian units, the planes bore down, in some cases to within 200 yards of the vessels and let go their "fish" less than ten feet above water level.

It is disclosed that the British cruiser Orion spotted the Italian fleet, including the Vittorio Veneto, early in the morning from a distance of approximately 15 miles. The cruiser entered the Italian ships some 70 miles to the eastward while the British battle fleet, then about 120 miles away, steamed to the westward.

While the Orion was jockeying the Italian fleet into position for the kill by the heavier British craft, she spent many busy and anxious hours dodging the long-distance shelling from the Vittorio Veneto as well as the cruisers which were firing at a 10-mile range.

ELECTIONS IN SHANGHAI

—Agreement

SHANGHAI, Apr. 1 (Reuter).—The action of the Municipal Council in again postponing the elections is believed to be connected with the current negotiations concerning the change in the number and representation on the Council.

This second postponement is at the eleventh hour but unlike the first postponement no definite date is now fixed for the elections. It is merely announced that the election set for April 9 and 10 has been cancelled and that such election has been postponed to a future date. It is unconfirmedly reported that the British, American and Japanese authorities are putting their final touches to an agreement whereby the three nationalities will equally divide the nine seats on the Council. It is also reported that such an agreement will hold good for two years.

Britain's Man of the Moment



Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham

Yugo-Slavia Closes Her Frontier

*Nazi Minister To Report To Berlin
Special to the "Telegraph"*

BELGRADE, Mar. 31 (UP).—It is reliably reported that Yugo-Slavia has closed her frontier with Rumania. The action is said to have been taken to-day.

The latest development in the Yugo-Slavia-German situation is the announcement by sources close to the German Legation that the Nazi Minister, Herr von Heeren, is leaving for Berlin to-night to report to Hitler.

Reliable sources term as "ridiculous" foreign reports that Germany has handed an ultimatum to Yugo-Slavia demanding that she demobilises. (A Budapest agency reported from Belgrade that Bulgaria was mobilising.)

An official communique has been issued regretting the recent incidents which involved German citizens. The announcement urges the populace to keep cool and to preserve the peace. It was added that the Government was doing its utmost to retain good relations with its neighbours.

Tension Mounts
SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
BERLIN, Mar. 31 (UP).—Authorised circles in Berlin declared that the awaited statement regarding Yugo-Slavia will be published to-day.

**R.A.F. Bomb Shipping
In Channel**
SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
LONDON, Mar. 31 (UP).—British bombers this afternoon attacked ships in the Channel between Calais and Boulogne.

Dense clouds of smoke were seen from the coast, indicating that hits had been scored. Six bombers, escorted by fighters, roared over the southeast coast shortly afterwards. Coast watchers saw the bombers diving to attack and then the planes flew back to the coast.

Burma Railway
SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
CHUNGKING, Mar. 31 (UP).—It is officially announced that Britain has agreed to provide funds to Burma for the extension of the railway from Lashio to the Yunnan border.

**Axis Ships Slip Away
To Secret Rendezvous**
RIO DE JANEIRO, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—Rumours that Axis ships are gathering in mid-ocean for a convey under the protection of German battle cruisers, are strengthening.

The vessels, in clearing Brazilian ports on Sunday, as their destinations. The Franco-Marshall Islands, recently released from Axis control, are reported to have been visited by German ships.

YUGO-SLAVIA AND REICH

*Non-Aggression
Pact Hinted*

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"
BELGRADE, Mar. 31 (UP).—Usually well-informed sources stated to-day that the new Yugo-Slavian Government will probably offer Germany a non-aggression pact in view of the inacceptability to Britain of the Cvetkovitch pact in its present form.

No Government declaration on its attitude to the tripartite pact is expected to-day, but only after a full dress Cabinet meeting which will probably take place on Thursday. General opinion in political circles continues to be that the new Government will do its utmost to find a peaceable solution to the present situation, while at the same time rapidly taking all necessary measures to place Yugo-Slavia in a state of full preparation for any event.

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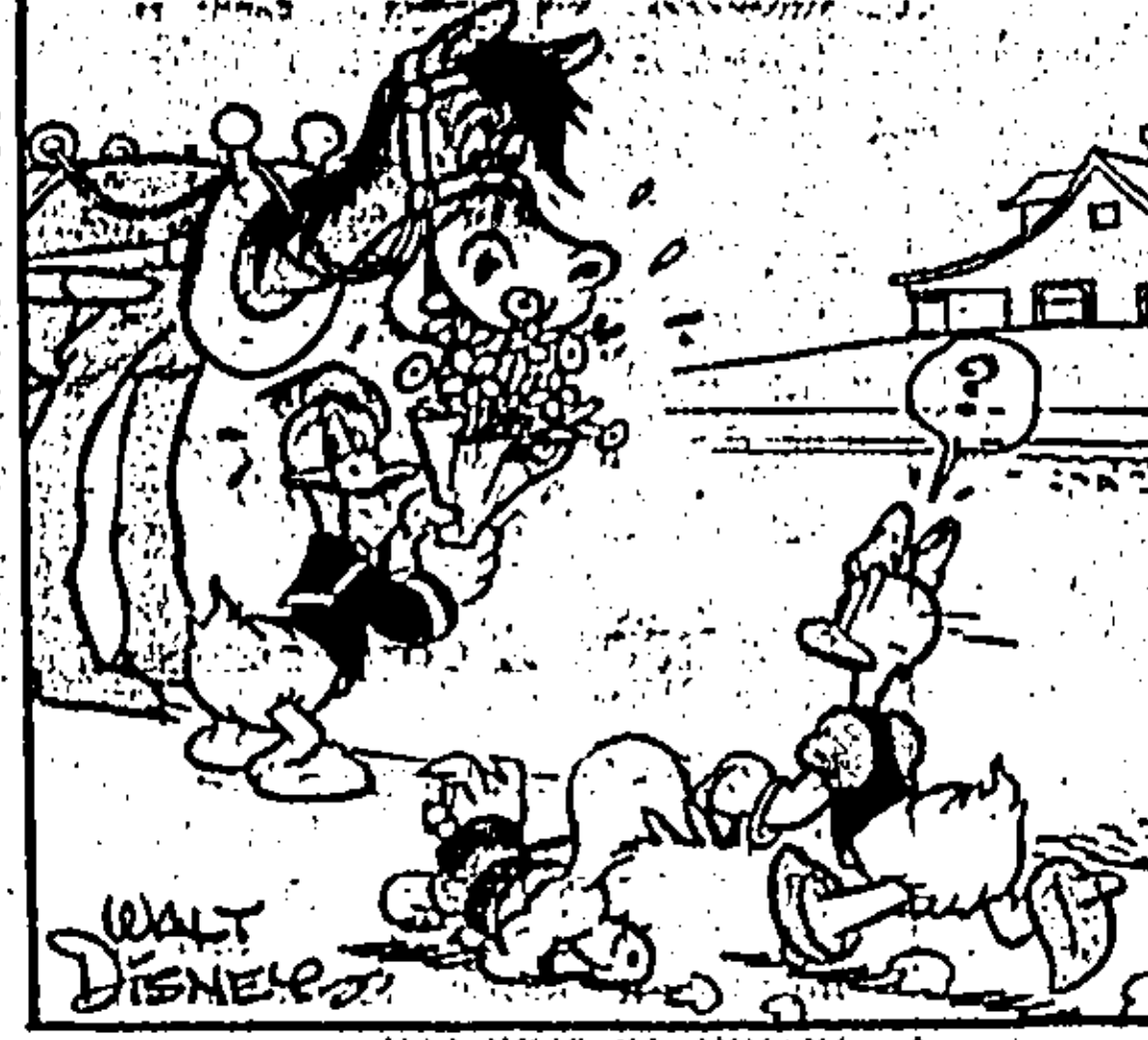
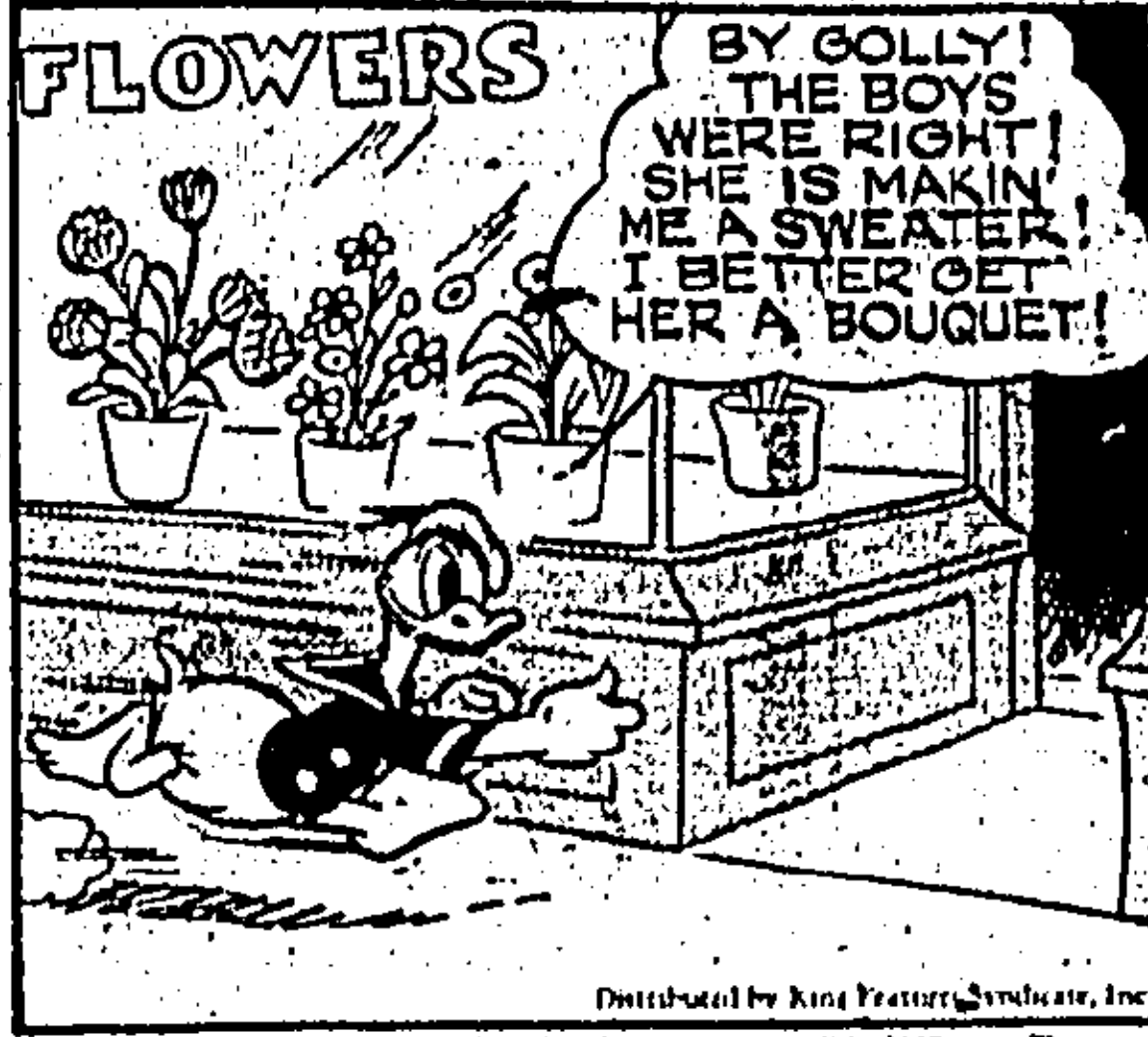
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LATEST

See Back Page For
Further Late News

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3 tins for **\$1.70**
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GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"We could try an invasion there on April 16th, the opening day of the baseball season in America—then it wouldn't get much notice in the papers."

Crossword Puzzle

By LARS MORRIS

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1—Pistol (slang)
- 2—Ball that hits net
- 3—Criminal
- 4—Mine entrance
- 5—Metal-bearing rock
- 6—Support
- 7—School term
- 8—Military operation
- 9—Spirit (French)
- 10—Wad
- 11—Conducted
- 12—Hair wave
- 13—Temple
- 14—Indian coin
- 15—Printer's measure
- 16—Trench
- 17—Asiatic lemur
- 18—Paid tribute (slang)
- 19—Printer's measure
- 20—Most worthy
- 21—Word of honor
- 22—Title
- 23—Pertaining to mountains
- 24—Warrior
- 25—Exalted
- 26—Quality
- 27—Royal
- 28—Navy sailor
- 29—Give forth
- 30—Stagnant

DOWN

- 1—Destroy
- 2—Short poems
- 3—Having dents on face
- 4—Metric measure (pl.)
- 5—American (noun)
- 6—Player
- 7—Sabbath (slang)
- 8—Position of golfer
- 9—Sculpture
- 10—Lemon
- 11—Man's nickname
- 12—Anger
- 13—Sea bird
- 14—Western Indian
- 15—Those who take example
- 16—Gambling game
- 17—Negativity
- 18—Quail bird
- 19—Sweet scent
- 20—Carries with one
- 21—Prejudiced
- 22—Vertical (nautical)
- 23—Persian ruler
- 24—Palmer
- 25—Deal with wax
- 26—Ireland
- 27—Boats' day
- 28—Hurried

In this, the Third Article in Our New Series:

OUR GREAT NEW ARMY

H. V. MORTON describes his visit to the "Young Soldiers"

I AM able to say that the War Office is giving careful thought to the grievances of the Young Soldiers Battalions. What these grievances are I shall explain in the course of this article.

First, let me explain what a Young Soldiers Battalion is, and how these units came into being. Their history is a curious one.

Before the War, Territorial battalions formed companies of old soldiers known as National Defence Companies, who had no peace-time duties or organisation but were to be called up on the outbreak of war to guard water-works, bridges, tunnels, aerodromes, military stores and power stations.

The age of enlistment in these companies was from 45 to 65, and at first only ex-soldiers were accepted.

Back To Khaki

When War came, these old soldiers turned up with great eagerness to put on khaki again and were formed into "Groups" composed of four or more companies under a Lieutenant-Colonel, who was called the "Group Commander."

This organisation was found to be imperfect and so in November 1939, the existing groups were formed into Battalions, known as the Home Defence Battalions, and as such they functioned as guards all over the country.

No one has ever praised those old soldiers for the work they did in critical and anxious times last year, or for the way they stood up to the hard winter of January and February.

Men who commanded them and came into contact with them tell me that they were magnificent.

However, despite their courage and cheerfulness, the surprising spectacle was observed, so often prophesied in military song, of those old soldiers gradually "fading away."

And they faded away as the result of age, illness, and old wounds.

Old Bill dragged himself to the water-works with heroic regularity, but, alas, his rheumatism, plus the "Blighty one" he got at Festubert, made it necessary for him to retire reluctantly into civil life.

When those old soldiers had been discharged, the supply ceased, and it was decided to fill the gaps with young volunteers between the ages of 18 and 20.

That was not a happy idea, and the mixing of old and young together was not satisfactory; therefore on September 19, 1940, the Young Soldiers Battalions were formed by removing from the Home Defence Battalions all the lads of 18 to 20.

Thus the Young Soldiers Battalions were born, phoenix-like, from the ashes of the old soldiers battalions.

And they remain to-day the only organisation which can give a boy two years' military

training before he automatically joins the Army at the age of twenty.

I visited a juvenile battalion, which wears the badge of a famous London regiment, and is stationed on the outskirts of a garrison town.

I found the headquarters in a pleasant suburban mansion hidden from the main road by trees.

Here I met the adjutant, and the second in command, both as keen as mustard on training young lads to be soldiers. Then I met the colonel, who was a good man for the job, I thought.

His expression could change in a second from that of a stern parent about to disinheritor his son to that of a benevolent uncle about to part with half a crown.

"See My Battalion"

"If you wish to see my battalion, instead of talking about it," he said, "you'll have to travel round the countryside, for the boys are scattered all over the place on guard duty."

I asked if that was their normal position, and he replied, yes, unfortunately it was.

Owing to the intensive training going on in the district, it was not possible for older troops to be found for such duties, with the result that the young soldiers have to do them.

He had consequently never seen his battalion on parade, and knew it only as a number of scattered detachments.

Mere Sentries

I said that while this was unfortunate for him it must be particularly unfortunate for the boys themselves, who had joined the Army of their own free will in order to become efficient soldiers by the time they were called up, and, instead, found themselves turned into permanent sentries.

"Well, you must judge for yourself," said the colonel with a smile that was like five shillings in the school holidays; by which I gathered that I had not displeased him.

Accompanied by the second in command, I set off in one of those chromatic Austin Savens, which the Army has tried to disguise as a bit of open country.

We came to general headquarters, where, with a sweep of his hand, the major indicated a wide flight of steps at the top of which stood two sentries who looked as though they had been blown over from Buckingham Palace. They were about six feet in height, and the hideous garment, known (thanks, surely, to some melodramatic tailor) as "battle-dress," had been pressed into smartness; too-caps shone as the Guards shine them, and every bit of webbing was blazoned, and all the buckles gleamed.

East and West

"Two of our lads," said the major, "are very proud of finding the headquarters guard."

We mounted the steps, where I talked to the young giant on the left.

"Where do you come from?" I asked.

"Hemel Hempstead," he replied sternly but suspiciously.

"How old are you?"

"Nineteen next birthday," he said, giving the last word its true Cockney value.

"Are your people safe?"

"So far."

I spoke to the young giant on the right.

"Where do you come from?" I asked.

"Kensington, sir," he said briskly.

"And where did you go to school?"

"Westminster, sir."

"And do you like the Army?"

"Well, er—," he looked in the direction of the major, "yes sir, I like it very much, sir."

"A Grand Mixture"

We passed into the building, where we encountered two more young soldiers mounting guard over a pile of dust-bins and a series of back doors.

I asked the major if the mixture of public schoolboy and L.C.C. schoolboy, which I had encountered on the front step, was general throughout the battalion.

"Yes, it is," he replied, "the battalion is a mixture of lads of every social grade, and a grand mixture it is. East End snobbery and West End snobbery don't last long here."

"The lads soon knock the rough corners off each other, and it's interesting to see them striking up friendships."

"The two you spoke to on the front step, who used to fight like cats, are now great buddies; they go about everywhere together."

"What are your chief troubles?"

"First, these perpetual guard duties, which make it difficult to create esprit de corps."

"Secondly, a general ingrained lack of discipline, for which I personally blame parents, among lads of eighteen."

"Thirdly, a small percentage of real bad hats with criminal records, who have been wished on us by magistrates."

"How is that?"

"It was the foolish habit of magistrates particularly in Glasgow, which does not affect us, to offer juvenile offenders the choice between punishment and the Army. Of course, they chose the Army. That has been stopped, I am glad to say."

We then made a rapid tour of ordnance stores, waterworks, petrol dumps, an aerodrome, and such-like places, scattered over an area of several miles, and at each point we came upon a small detachment of young soldiers.

They were being chased about on P.T. and bayonet practice in the brief intervals between "posing up" for guard duty.

A sergeant, who wore the Mons Star, told me that a better lot of lads could not be found anywhere. It was a pity to see their keenness being blunted on the soul-killing monotony of guard duty.

As they reach the age of 20, the boys leave the Young Soldiers Battalion and report to a training centre, from which they are sent to regular units of the Army.

It is the ambition of every boy in the battalion to become 20, so that he can escape from guard duty and learn to be a soldier.

Help These Lads

I came away from this battalion with the profound conviction that we are neglecting one of the best breeding-grounds for officers and N.C.O.s if we do not right the wrongs of the Young Soldiers Battalions.

These boys are volunteers in an age of conscription.

They are interested in the Army, otherwise they would have waited to be called up in the ordinary way.

They are ambitious and want to be already proficient at an age when their contemporaries are new recruits.

It is clearly our duty to help them to be so.

"Well," asked the colonel, when I had got back, "What do you think of my boys?"

I told him: I thought they had had a tough deal. I received a ten-shilling smile.

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Hata Flies To Kiangsi

CHUNGKING, Mar. 31 (Central News).—In a desperate attempt to relieve the Japanese debacle in northern Kiangsi, General Shunroku Hata, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in China, left Shanghai for the Kuoan front by air on March 28, according to a Shanghai dispatch.

Besides inspecting the front, General Hata is reported to be personally directing a counter-attack.

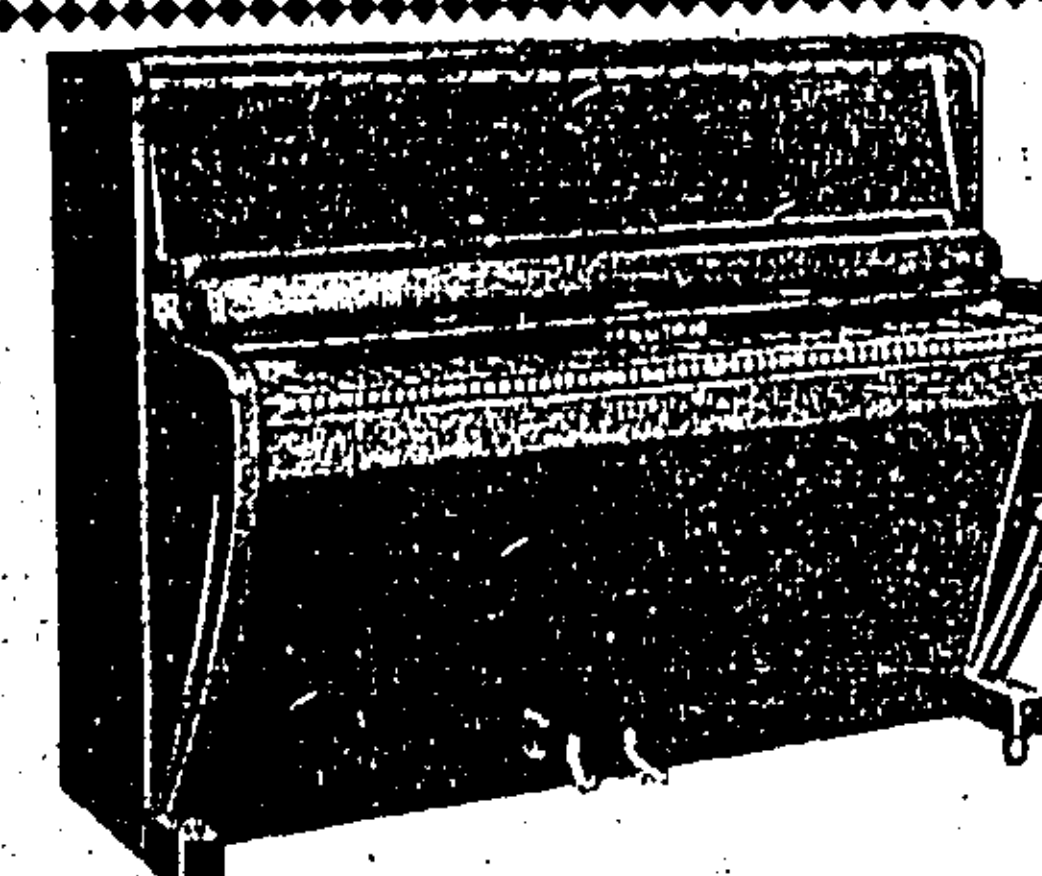
Nanking Envoy With Vichy Govt

CHUNGKING, Mar. 30 (Central News).—The Chinese Government has lodged a protest with the Vichy Government, following receipt of reports that Lin Chieh-min, representative of the Wang Ching-wei regime there, had issued notifications jointly with the Japanese authorities to the Chinese residents asking them to attend a memorial service to be held to-day for the late Tsong Chung-hua, formerly Wang Ching-wei's close follower, who was assassinated in Hanoi on March 21, 1940.

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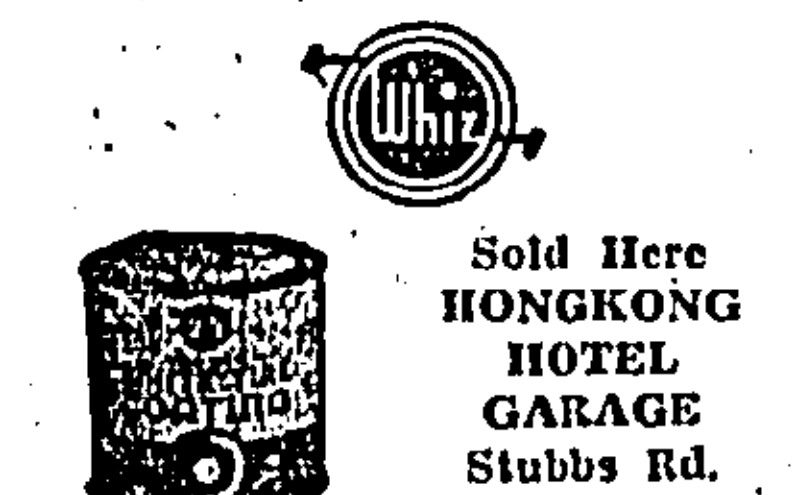
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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The family of Mr. Lau King Tsing beg to thank all relatives and friends for their kind sympathy in their recent sad bereavement, also for floral tributes and attendance at the funeral.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

Tuesday, April 1, 1941.
Wyndham St., Hongkong
Telephone: 26015

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PAUSE TO PONDER

THE programme of Mr. Matsuo's tour of Axis Europe has been admirably punctuated by Britain and her Allies and friends. He arrived in a gaily-bellied Berlin-as-King-Peter overthrew the pro-Axis Government of Yugo-Slavia, and is now visiting Mussolini as the victorious British stream into Abyssinia from all sides and the sound of the Royal Navy's guns sound a burial roll for five more Italian warships.

The Japanese Foreign Minister could have arrived at no worse moment from Hitler's point of view. The Japanese are realists; their ideological support of the "New Order" has never submerged their practical ambitions. Recently the Premier's words that Japan could never become a totalitarian nation were reaffirmed.

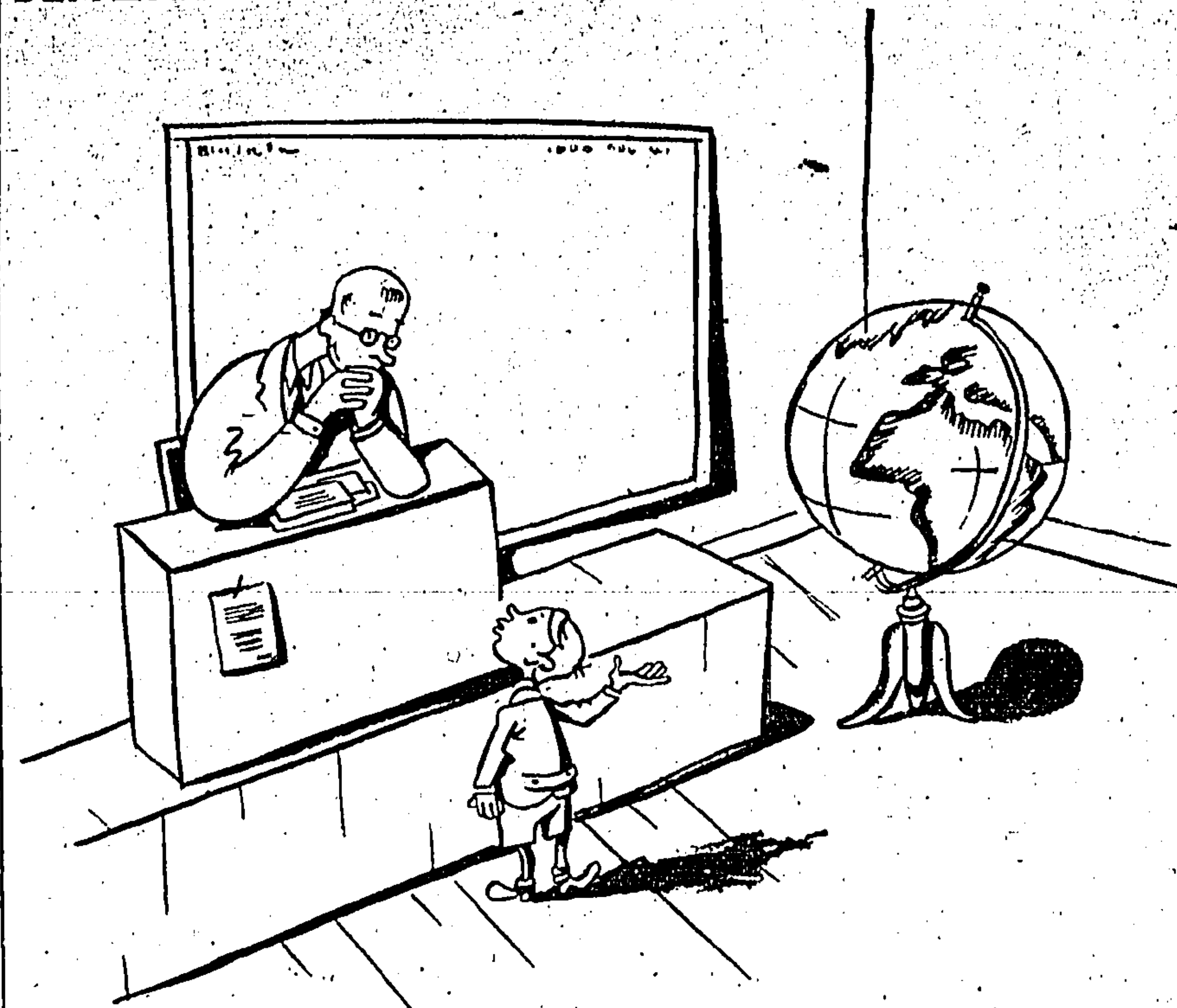
That Japanese native ideology is suffering an eclipse as war aims are blunted on the mainland of Asia is evidenced by the almost farcical collapse of the National Salvation Organisation. This body fell down on its programme of impulsively sweeping all industrial and private means together in one great effort to achieve the Imperial Way. The immediate aim, termination of the war in China or embarkation on the southward expansion, was not stated, but the prime initiators of the movement evidently had in mind a death or glory plan which was too desperate to appeal to the solid bloc of Japanese industrialists.

The N.S.A. still lives, shorn of many of its first fancies but the transformation has proved the existence of the powerful influence wielded by temperate and realistic elements. It is a sign, one hopes, that Tokyo is facing the future more soberly; there has certainly been less dash and fire in the pronouncements of her leading statesmen lately.

A radio commentary over the week-end suggested that Stalin, at Hitler's insistence, would sign a non-aggression pact with Japan for the cession of the whole of Sakhalin Island, a large part of Korea and a few other things.

BLITZKRIEG OR BLITZCRASH?

By Billiken



"Now Tommy, what do you understand by the term Blitzkrieg?"
"It's a word invented by the Nazis, Sir, for sending planes to England to be shot down!"

ALBANIA
Initiative Again
In Greek Hands

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The lull on the Albanian front which followed the Italians' disastrous offensive attempt has been broken by the Greeks again taking the initiative.

Yesterday several small detachments entered the Italian lines at various points, stated the Athens radio, inflicting losses, taking prisoners and seizing many machine-guns.

Greek artillery was also active against moving columns but Italian artillery response was weak.

Greek aircraft co-operated, the announcer added, inflicting severe losses while attacking important targets without, however, any losses to themselves.

The number of prisoners is steadily mounting while the guns and war materials abandoned by the retreating enemy are being collected in large quantities.

Aerial Support of Army
CAIRO, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—Another heavy raid on Tripoli was made to-day in continuance of the R.A.F. support of the army operations in Abyssinia and elsewhere.

R.A.F. bombers to-day bombed and machine-gunned enemy positions. All our aircraft returned safely from these operations.

Luftwaffe Busy
SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Mar. 31 (UP).—German raiders have been busier over east England than for some time past, crossing the coast since shortly after dark. They are meeting with a hot reception with searchlights lighting up the sky. Incendiary bombs have been dropped on some areas.

Century-Old Cotton
Exchange Suspended
SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LIVERPOOL, Mar. 31 (UP).—Trading at the century-old Liverpool Cotton Association Exchange was suspended at noon to-day for the duration of the war, as a result of the recent decision of the Government to take over the control of all raw cotton imports and cotton stocks in the United Kingdom.

enabling Japan to use her best troops from the northern borders for service elsewhere. Opinion is more inclined to the view that Japan will hold all she has in the north and will postpone any ambitions she has in the south until the war in Europe has taken a definite turn. To realistic Japan, Britain's naval and military successes, and her dour resistance to air bombing must mean a great deal. It will be surprising if Hitler has wrung from Mr. Matsuo anything more potent than anti-British gesture.

DANISH SHIPS
SEIZED
New Action Taken by U.S.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—President Roosevelt has indicated that he personally ordered the seizure of Italian, German and Danish ships at American ports during the week-end.

This was revealed at a press conference on the train taking him back to Washington, but he declined to comment.

The seized ships totalled 296,715 tons, it was announced by the Coast Guard service here.

Cordell Hull
WASHINGTON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, defended the Government's action in seizing German, Italian and Danish ships at a press conference to-day.

He said that he would not talk at present about the final disposition of the ships.

He had not heard anyone question the absolute legality of the seizure and emphasized that justification for it was based on the fact that attempted sabotage in the ships endangered American ports.

Asked whether the seizure could be construed as a step towards war, Mr. Hull replied that the United States Government had for some time pursued a course of aid to Britain and other nations under the formula of "all available aid short of war."

French Ships
WASHINGTON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—

Chiang Calls For Spirit
Of Revolution In China
—Military Danger Is Passed

CHUNGKING, Mar. 31 (Central News).—General Chiang warned 150 Kuomintang members at a Plenary Session to-day that the Kuomintang had gradually drifted away from the people and that Party members have lost their revolutionary spirit and relaxed their efforts.

He strongly enjoined them to return to the people and re-suscitate the spirit of revolution in order that the ruling Party in China may successfully live up to its leadership in the nation's dual task of resistance and reconstruction.

General Chiang laid great stress on economic warfare, asserting that the key to the success or failure of China's resistance lies in economics. He went a step further by saying that in the decisive factors of the war, economics count 70 per cent, while military affairs count 30 per cent.

Militarily, General Chiang affirmed, after three years and eight months of armed resistance, Japan has been forced to admit that it is impossible to conquer China by force. "Consequently," he asserted, "we may say the military crisis has passed and we have achieved a certain degree of success."

While attributing China's success in withstanding the onslaught of the Japanese military juggernaut largely to popular subscription to the Sun Min Chu I and the spiritual strength of the nation and also the employment of revolutionary, political and military strategies, the Generalissimo reminded his audience that the building up of an army that can rank with the armies of the world Powers and can adequately safeguard national security after the war, calls for the exertion of efforts tenfold and hundredfold more by the comrades of the Kuomintang.

Cause For Optimism
"In view of this fact," General Chiang further said, "although mili-

tarly there is cause for optimism we must not allow any laxity in our efforts and must never become self-satisfied just because we have held the enemy back in this war of attrition."

"Here we call upon the C.E.C. and C.S.C. members to pay as much attention to the institution of economic measures henceforth as they did to towards military affairs three years ago."

General Chiang laid special emphasis on strengthening China's economic staying power.

"At present the general public opinion, generally speaking, is unduly apprehensive over China's economic problems. According to my observation, China's economic position really does not give much cause for alarm. The only question that should worry us is whether we can undergo the hardships of the struggle and whether we can embark upon the phase of positive reconstruction."

Critical Months Past
"United Press" adds that General Chiang asserted the Kuomintang was different from the Nazi, Fascist and Communist Parties since "we are still in the revolutionary period," and therefore the Kuomintang must re-voice its revolutionary spirit as well as its fundamental social reconstruction.

RADIO

ZBW, 355 metres (845 kcs.) and 3145 metres (9520 kilo-cycles)

Scheherazade, Opus 35
Rimsky-Korsakov

Ra 10 Programme Broadcast by Z. B. W. on a Frequency of 845 kcs. and on Short Wave from 1-2.15 p.m. and 8-11 p.m. on 9.52 m.c.s. per second.

4.45 Indian Programme.
5.30 Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 J. H. Squire Celebrates with Nan Maryska (Soprano).

7.00 London Relay—The News.
7.15 London Relay—The Island Speaks—Talk by J. B. Priestley.

7.30 Features Programme.
8.00 Local Time Signal and Announcements.

8.02 Rimsky-Korsakov—Scheherazade, Op. 35.

8.47 Cello Solos by Pablo Casals.—Musette (Duch-Pollain), Goyescas—Intermezzo (Granados) and Les Complices (Casual).

9.00 London Relay—The News.
9.15 London Relay—"Questions of the Hour".

9.30 Variety by Ronald Frankau with Piano, Gerry Moore, Elsie Carlisle with Orchestra, Walkiki Stone-Wall Boys and Charles (Gerry) Fitz Gerald (Tenor) with Orchestra.

9.45 News in French (on Short Wave only).

10.00 London Relay—Talk: "Scots Abroad".

10.15 Dance Music.
11.00 Close Down.

Baltic Press
Rejoices

Yugo-Slavian Revolt

HELSINGFORS, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—The "Helsingfors Arbetarblad" comments delightedly: "One can understand that Ribbentrop is not entirely pleased with the new brother, Yugo-Slavia. He wanted to show his Japanese colleague a newly-organised Europe all complete with Yugo-Slavia as a fresh and extra cake on the tray. Suddenly it appears that the pastry was an explosive and delicate cake and it goes up in smoke with a light pop. It is not at all pleasant to be compelled to invite people to this kind of delicacy."

The military critic of the "Helsingfors" says: "This is Germany's first diplomatic loss if one excludes the French and British declarations of war. If the war extends to the Balkans, Germany will lose one of the best suppliers of food and another important oil route from Russia will be cut off."

Loss of Oil And Ore

"Germany also will not receive copper, bauxite, iron ore, rock oil, salt, coal, lignite, iron ore, manganese, gold, lead, mercury and asphalt. Almost all these products are vital to her war industry and supplies of them have been extremely important for Germany."

"British bombers would secure excellent bases in Yugo-Slavia for attacking the Rumanian oil districts and the Bohemian and Moravian armament factories. There Germany has no effective air-defences such as she has westwards along the shores of the North Sea."

The "Helsingfors" expects that a front will be formed in the mountains where conditions are favourable for the Yugo-Slavs, and that the Greek position will be improved and the Italians will be compelled to withdraw hurriedly from Albania.

The "Stockholm Dagbladet" says that it will be understandable if Germany reproaches those who organised such an inappropriate accompaniment to Mr. Matsuo's Berlin visit which was intended to be so festive.

Ethiopia Before Rains

The "Stockholm" military correspondent points out that two capitals—Asmara and Addis Ababa—are now threatened and that Italian resources in Abyssinia are being exhausted. The British can now entertain high hopes of completing the East African campaign before the rains. They can then release forces for important operations in Libya and the Balkans.

The "New York Mirror" on March 28 said: "Yugo-Slavia has dealt the first solid blow to Hitler's prestige which has not suffered since he militarised the Rhineland in 1936 with the exception of his failure to attempt the invasion of England. The important, because Hitler has won many a battle through his prestige, fear, strategy and terror. For the first time the objective which Hitler had openly set himself and which he believed achieved has been denied him."

Nazi Might Flouted

"Instead of a spectacle of one more country accepting the Nazi yoke, the Japanese Foreign Minister has seen a small and comparatively weak country flout the German might."

The "New York Sun" on March 28 said: "Nobody who remembers the fighting spirit of the Serbs in the last war will be astonished that they refused to honour the shameful surrender of their government at Vienna. Small peoples everywhere will take new courage. The Nazis will feel the power of this act of defiance not only in Yugo-Slavia but in all oppressed territories from the Mediterranean to the Arctic."

In which, "If we achieve steady progress, I believe the present economic crisis will be solved."

He declared that the last four months of 1940 had been the most critical for China since the war began and that the turning point had been reached. Last December and there had been a steady improvement ever since.

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CONSUL ALLEGES INCIVILITY BY IMMIGRATION DEPT. OFFICIALS THIS MORNING'S PUBLIC INQUIRY EVIDENCE

Alleged incivility on the part of Mr R. A. D. Forrest, the Immigration Officer, was the complaint levelled by Mr J. M. da Rocha, honorary Consul for Costa Rica, when he testified this morning at the public inquiry into the Immigration Department. Mr da Rocha declared that on one occasion when he entered Mr Forrest's office, the Immigration Officer told him to "get out". Mr da Rocha later said, when questioned by Mr Forrest, that as a Consul, he did not expect priority treatment but he did expect consideration.

Dr S. N. Chau was another witness this morning, when he complained that time was unnecessarily wasted in making the immigration examinations on board ships.

The Chief Shipper, Sir Atholl MacGregor, again presided, the other members of the Commission being Mr D. Drummond, Mr C. Bernard Brown, Mr H. K. Woo, and Mr K. M. A. Harrell, the secretary.

Dr S. N. Chau said: I am Justice of the Peace and I possess a certificate of residence issued by the Immigration Officer.

On Monday 10th March I returned to Hongkong from Macao by the s.s. "Kin Shun". I and other passengers in possession of similar certificates proceeded to the gangway but we were told by a Chinese Immigration Officer that we would not be permitted to disembark until all those passengers who had passports had landed. I and others with me had accordingly to wait for at least 20 minutes whilst those with passports left the ship.

The examination of the passports was done by a European Immigration Officer in the saloon where I was allowed to land my certificate was examined by the Chinese Immigration Officer at the gangway, so that it would have been quite possible for persons with certificates such as mine to have disembarked at the same time as those with passports.

Questioned by Mr Forrest, Dr Chau stated that he had been given to understand by Sir Robert Kettlewell that no distinction was made between passports and entry permits in such a case. His sole complaint was that a simultaneous examination could have been held.

Mr Forrest stated that it was his instructions that passports were to be examined first, and that if a simultaneous examination was held he would require a greater staff than he had.

The next witness called was Mr J. M. da Rocha of Messrs J. M. da Rocha & Co., who said: I am Honorary Consul for Costa Rica in Hongkong.

On January 8 last I wrote to the Immigration Officer submitting five applications for entry permits with my guarantee of the applicants' bona fides. On the 10th January I received the official receipt for the applications. On January 20 not having heard anything from the Immigration Officer I went to see him and saw Mr Weill an Assistant Immigration Officer and presented the receipt. After about an hour's search he informed me that he could not trace the applications. I thereupon sent in my Consul's visiting card to Mr Forrest and was then brought into his office. He asked me whether I was Consul "au carriere" and I replied that was Honorary Consul for Costa Rica. I then told him the facts and he asked me to make fresh applications and to cancel his receipt for the original ones. He further asked me in future to hand all applications to him personally.

On the 22nd February I returned to Wyndham Street where he was told that the permit would not be available for at least seven days and accordingly, on my instructions, my clerk asked for and received back the application.

I then went to the Immigration Office and saw the chief clerk to whom I related what had happened and he then handed the application form "urgent" and said I could have the permit that afternoon.

In the afternoon I went back to the Immigration Office and after I had waited for over an hour the clerk produced the form of permit from a bundle where it had been lying apparently completed all the time. He asked me for a fee of \$2 which I refused to pay, showing him the General Agent's receipt, but as he insisted, I paid under protest and the clerk then threw the permit on the counter in front of me.

On the following day my clerk went to the General Agent's Office and recovered the \$2 which he had paid as a statutory fee, but he was refused refund of the \$1 paid in addition, although no services had been rendered by the Agent.

Missing Applications
The Chairman (Mr de Rocha): I take it that as far as your first visit to the Immigration Office regarding the five applications is concerned, you have no complaint at all?—My complaint is that I had to make the applications all over again. I was told they had been lost, but they were subsequently recovered.

But that is not a complaint of incivility or anything of that sort?—No, but I was very much surprised that the applications could have been lost.

As regards your second application for a visa for Mrs Rocha and a permit for the amah, your complaint is incivility on the part of Mr Forrest and treatment of you as a Consul from some of his subordinate staff?—Yes, and also the fact that I could not recover \$1. It is not a matter of money, but a question of principle.

Was Engaged.
Mr Forrest: Mr da Rocha, I beg you to take into consideration that I never saw your script until half an hour ago, so I have not had time to consider it. I am passing over the first visit and will deal with the second one. You saw Mr M. W. Lo go into my office?—Yes.

Precisely, therefore, I was engaged?—Yes.

Yet you decided to go into my office?—Yes, because you had told me I could see you again at any time and because there was no privacy in that room or the word "Private" written or marked there. Further, there was a great deal of space inside the office where I could sit instead of waiting outside amongst the crowd.

You have already been once to my office and did you see any vacant chairs there?—I was told to sit in one of them.

Told To "Get Out"
I am surprised because we are continually short of chairs. You knew

A few days later I handed fresh applications to the Immigration Officer in person. He instructed a clerk to stamp them "urgent" and told me to call for them the following day. I did so and received the five entry permits.

On the 22nd February I went to the Immigration Office to obtain a visa for my wife's passport as she wished to go urgently to Kulangsu on M. V. "Cremor" which was sailing on the 22nd February. In addition I wished to obtain an entry permit for her Chinese nurse who was to accompany her. The matter was urgent as the object of the visit was to visit a nephew Mr Michael Duffy who was dangerously ill in Amoy Hospital.

Told To Get Out
I saw Mr M. W. Lo go into Mr Forrest's office—the door of which is not marked "private" and in fact there are a number of clerks working there—but on seeing me the Immigration Officer without enquiring the purpose of my visit, told me very roughly to "get out" and to see the Chinese clerk.

Accordingly I went to a Chinese clerk in the General Office, and although I told him that my application was urgent and informed him of the fact that I was a Consul he insisted upon proof of the urgency and I had to produce a letter showing that the circumstances I had related above were facts. He then stated that he would treat the matter as urgent and that if I returned the next day the visa for my wife's passport would be ready, but that with regard to the nurse's entry permit, I must go to see the "General Agent" at 30 Wyndham Street to whom he wrote a memorandum as to the urgency of the matter.

I then left and sent my clerk to see the General Agent; he was informed at the Agent's office that he would have to pay a fee of \$2 (being the statutory fee) and in addition \$1 for his connection with the matter, and that he was to return the next day.

Refused To Pay
On the 22nd February my clerk returned to Wyndham Street where he was told that the permit would not be available for at least seven days and accordingly, on my instructions, my clerk asked for and received back the application.

I then went to the Immigration Office and saw the chief clerk to whom I related what had happened and he then handed the application form "urgent" and said I could have the permit that afternoon.

In the afternoon I went back to the Immigration Office and after I had waited for over an hour the clerk produced the form of permit from a bundle where it had been lying apparently completed all the time. He asked me for a fee of \$2 which I refused to pay, showing him the General Agent's receipt, but as he insisted, I paid under protest and the clerk then threw the permit on the counter in front of me.

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You have already been once to my office and did you see any vacant chairs there?—I was told to sit in one of them.

Told To "Get Out"
I am surprised because we are continually short of chairs. You knew

I was dealing with Mr Lo?—I did not know that, but I expected you to tell me you were busy and to ask me to go back until you had finished with Mr Lo. I said to you, "I told you to 'get out'."

I submit that what I said was "Please wait outside?"—No. You told me to get out and see a clerk. At that time, you did not even know the purpose of my visit.

Did you happen to know whether I had my glasses on my nose at that time or not?—I cannot remember.

If I tell you that I am quite unable to see anybody as far as the door, would you accept that?—No, because I was very near to you.

Bad Memory
If I tell you further that I have an extremely bad memory for faces, would you accept that?—No, I would not accept that.

Would you accept my statement that when I saw you this morning, I did not know who you were?—I cannot say, but you said "Good morning" to me and I said "Good morning" to you.

Are you prepared to accept that statement?—It is strange to me that I have lived here so many years that you did not know me, when every Tom, Dick and Harry knows me by sight.

You told the Chinese clerk that you were a Consul?—Yes.

Meaning by that?—That I expected certain considerations and certain privileges and advantages over the other people in the Colony.

In other words, you expected priority over the ordinary inhabitants?—I do not claim priority, but I claim consideration.

What form of consideration?—In this particular case, I expected him to take my word for it as a Consul, that the case was urgent.

Hard And Fast Rules
You will realise, especially in the case of junior officers newly engaged and imperfectly trained, that it was necessary to give certain hard and fast rules?—But my interview was with the chief clerk who happens to be this gentleman (Mr Walter Hamming Chen).

But he is not the chief clerk and never has been?—I do not know his position.

Was he the same gentleman who told you to take the nurse's entry permit application to the General Agent?—He not only told me, but he wrote a memo to the General Agent.

Was there any reason for that?—Yes, urgency.

You say that the General Agent had performed no service?—Absolutely none except "giving" the receipt.

You found the permit ready when you came to my office later?—The following day when I found that the permit was not ready I submitted to Mr Chen again the urgency of the matter, and he wrote the word "urgent" on a form and was kind enough to ask me to call again, in the afternoon.

Waited An Hour
You say that the permit had been ready for some considerable time?—When I called in the afternoon it was produced after I had been kept waiting for an hour. So therefore, it must have been ready before.

Where had it been lying?—Among a number of books. I had to wait and wait and when I kicked, it was produced.

I cannot understand what you mean by it having been ready for some considerable time. Was it hours, days or weeks?—It was hours. It was ready some hours before and after keeping me waiting for an hour it was produced on my insistence.

Have you any real reason to think that the permit was written, signed, and embossed that day?—Yes, because when I called in the morning, after having been refused by the General Agent, I was told to call back in the afternoon, it must have been done between that time.

Lying On Desk
But in your statement, you said it had been lying on the desk all the time?—When I said all the time, it was between the interval of my visit in the morning and my second visit in the afternoon.

Was it tied in a bundle?—No it was simply lying among a bundle of permits.

Who completed the application forms?—I did.

Including the nurse's?—No, that was done by my clerk.

So what you actually did was to hand them to the General Agent?—Yes.

You had good reason to believe that the permit was not written at all after your morning visit to me?—I am sure of that.

You did not think it possible that the permit might have been completed but mislaid?—No, decidedly not.

When you took that application form from the General Agent and handed it to Mr Chen in the Immigration Office, do you remember whether anything was marked on it?—Yes, it was marked "urgent."

In answer to Mr Chen, Mr da

Rocha said that he (Mr Chen) had certainly been very courteous all the time.

Photographers' Guild
Mr Wong Tong, Commissioner of Overseas Affairs in the Chinese National Government, and Chairman of the Photographers' Guild, submitted a letter to the Commission inquiring on what authority the Immigration Officer put up a notice, which was published in the Chinese Press on February 26, to the effect that his qualifications to guarantee applications for permits, had been cancelled. He also asked what right the Immigration Officer had to say that he was not a fit and proper person to guarantee applications.

Mr Wong's second complaint was against the granting of exclusive rights, so far as photographs for Immigration permits were concerned, to the General Agent. He said that public feelings were excited and highly indignant at this action and the following day a meeting of the Guild, a letter was sent to the Immigration Officer on January 16, asking why Mr Kobza should be appointed General Agent and why other agencies were cancelled. No reply to this letter was received.

Indignant Public
Mr Forrest (to Mr Wong): You have told the Commission that the public was very excited and indignant about the grant of a monopoly to Mr Kobza?—Yes.

Did you yourself have any part in exciting the public and making them indignant?—No.

May I refer you to an article which appeared in various Chinese newspapers on January 26, one day after the signature of the agreement between the General Agent and myself and which bears your signature? Did you write that article?—That was the letter I sent to the Chinese Council Members as Chairman of the Guild after we had held a meeting.

And did you consider that the charges you made there about Mr Kobza were sufficient to excite the public?—The granting of a General Agency to Mr Kobza affected all the studios, and we had to defend them.

Article In Press
That may be so, but the effect of your article was sufficient to excite the populace. Do you agree?—We tried our best to bear the consequences of the grant but as we could not, we decided to write the letter.

You say here that if this General Agency plan was adopted, the product would be coarse due to lack of preparation?—That was a letter to the Chinese Representatives and not an article to the Press.

The Chairman: Who sent it to the Chinese papers?—I don't know.

Mr Forrest: Were you ever aware that the appearance of this article was the subject of a communication from Mr Kobza's solicitors to the newspapers which printed it?—I was not aware.

Was the phrase "As to who is behind the scenes, this can be imagined" part of your article?—Yes.

And you still do not consider your article was sufficient to inflame the passions of the public?—Had there been a reply to our letter of January 16, no such letter would have appeared. As we got no reply, we got in touch with the Chinese Representatives and we were asked to send a letter.

Black Listed
You discovered that your name was on my black-list as one of the persons whose guarantees I shall not in future accept?—Why was I black-listed?

When you discovered that, what action did you take?—I did nothing.

You didn't for instance, appeal to the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, go to your solicitors, approach the Chinese Members or consult the Chamber of Commerce?—No.

You did not write to me officially asking me to remove your name from that list?—We sent a letter on January 16 and did not receive a reply.

You had been to my office personally before you had been black-listed?—Yes, once. It was because an applicant could not get his permit for more than two months.

At any time, did you have any conversation with any of my Chinese staff in my office, apart from the question of this permit?—No.

Did you ever talk to any of my staff about the question of photographs in the Immigration Office?—No.

Did you suggest, at any time, that you would be a good man to be General Agent?—No.

Did you ever, at any time, offer to any member of my staff a bribe?—The Chairman: You need not answer that if you do not desire to do so.

Mr Wong answered Mr Forrest in the negative.

Mr Brown: Were you black-listed before or after January 16?—After January 16.

This concluded the questioning of Mr Wong and Mr Forrest then handed to the Chairman a list of figures which he said were extracted from a cash book in his office with reference to Mr Pudney's answers at the last hearing. The figures showed that over a certain period of February and March, the daily turnover of cash averaged \$24,215.

Paper's Use of Name
Before adjourning the inquiry sine die, the Chairman said: It has come to my notice that one of the European papers in the Colony, in reporting the proceedings on March 26, when Mr Forrest put to Mr Pudney certain cases in the Post Office, where an unsecured officer had been allowed to handle a considerable sum of money, published the name of that officer in question. It is true that the

name was mentioned during the hearing, and therefore the paper in question was technically within its rights in giving an accurate and full report by mentioning the name. I can only say that while it is no part of the business of this Commission to consider the action of that officer was right or wrong, or whether he was at all important, I do deprecate the use of names and the introduction of personalities like that. It would be much better to refrain from personalities and refer to persons in impersonal ways.

Mr Forrest: I beg to tender my apologies for mentioning the name at the hearing.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hongkong Stock Exchange Official Summary, issued yesterday, says: Business was reported in Government 3½% Loan, all the Insurance shares, Stocks, Providents and Cements, and the demand continues. Other stocks are enquired for without resulting in business.

Buyers
H.K. Banks \$1,340
Bank of East Asia \$70
Union Ins. \$430
Indo-Chinas (Pref) \$80
Wharves X.D. \$85
Docks X.D. \$15.65
Providents \$5.20
Hotels \$3.15
Lands \$32.25
Humphreys \$6.70
Realities \$2
Trams \$18.40
Yau-mat Ferries \$23.75
Lights "O" \$0.20
Lights "N" \$1.75
Electrics C. Rits \$39.50
Telephones X.D. "O" \$23.25
Telephones X.D. "N" \$9
Cements \$17.50
Ropes \$7.20
Watsons X.D. \$9.70
Entertainments X.D. \$0.30

Sellers
Docks X.D. \$15.75
Providents \$5.35

Sales
H.K. Govt. 3½% Loan (1034) 94.50
Canton Ins. \$223
Union Ins. \$432.50
H.K. Fire Ins. \$186
Docks X.D. \$15.70
Providents \$5.30
Cements \$17.75

Cheerful Tendency
LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—On the Stock Exchange to-day there was a cheerful tendency on the naval success in the Mediterranean but the price movements were small though the market was generally firm.

There was fair support for gilt-edged securities which closed slightly higher, though a trifle below the best on profit-taking.

The demand for Industrials broadened while home rails and Kafirs met some demand.

Greeks and Japanese bonds were higher among the foreign issues.

Wall Street was quietly firm.

Fatal Accident
A man and his wife were knocked down on the Castle Peak road last night and fatally injured. They died early this morning at the Kowloon Hospital after sustaining serious injuries.

According to a police report, Wong Pui a bus driver was driving his bus along the Castle Peak road in the Shamshuipo district, when Chan Yau (60) and his wife, Ho Par (68), who were crossing the road, were knocked down. They were taken to the Kowloon Hospital.

Civil Service Teams
The following will represent Civil Service C.C. in League Cricket matches on Saturday:

1st XI v. Kowloon C.C. (away).—J. E. Nicholas (Capt.), K. J. Atwell, F. Baker, W. H. Colledge, E. N. Foreman, B. C. K. Hawkins, A. E. Perry, E. W. Pudney, W. Philley, A. M. J. Wright and R. M. Wood.

2nd XI v. Kowloon C.C. (home).—J. E. Nicholas (Capt.), G. Ainslie, V. C. Bond, J. F. MacGowan, J. Mitchell, H. Parrott, N. L. Smith and A. Watson.

THE TIE WITHOUT A HANGOVER

Wembley Bravats

There's no "morning after" look to a Wembley Bravats tie. Keep it fast, it's tough, it's it ages and ages, the wrinkles are out in the morning.

NEW STOCKS NOW SHOWING

at MACKINTOSH'S Ltd.

MEN'S WEAR SPECIALISTS

AND WHO WOULDN'T BE HAPPY WITH EWO BEER

ORDER A DOZEN FOR YOUR HOME

Sole Agents: JARDINE MATHESON AND COMPANY LTD.

Britain's War Finances For One Complete Year

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—"The astronomical" cost of the war to the British taxpayer is revealed in revenue returns issued to-night showing that Britain has spent—the record amount of £3,867,245,670 in the financial year which ended to-night.

The total ordinary revenue from all sources was £1,408,807,097, leaving a deficit of £2,458,378,573.

The problem of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Kingsley Wood, in his forthcoming budget is whether to try, by imposing new taxation to narrow the enormous gap between expenditure and revenue, which has otherwise to be bridged by borrowing.

The supply services, including the fighting forces, accounted for £3,037,112,000 of the expenditure as against £1,078,257,000 last year.

A cheering feature of the returns is the net increase of £359,078,404 in total ordinary revenue over last year's yield. The revenue exceeded the Chancellor's estimate by over £48,000,000 largely owing to the success of new taxes including the Purchase Tax which he introduced in his July budget.

Most revenue items show substantial increases including Customs and Excise (presumably including Pur-chase Tax) which together are over £129,000,000 higher than last year's figures.

The total expenditure in the year it may be noted, averaged £10,500,000 per day but the expenditure during the past three months averaged nearly £13,000,000 per day.

The excess of expenditure over revenue was covered by borrowing. The floating debt was increased by £1,324,000,000 during the year and it now amounts to £2,813,410,000, compared with £1,489,200,000 a year ago.

JUNK PEOPLE ARRESTED
Navy's Warning Shots
Arrested and detained by the Naval authorities after a number of warning shots had been fired, a number of junk people were later hauled over to the Police and charged before Comdr T. C. Stiff at the Marine Court this morning with entering a prohibited area—the North Bantua Channel Minefield—yesterday.

Defendants, Ng So, 28, junk master, and six others, pleaded guilty to the charge, and were fined \$30 each in default 30 days' imprisonment. Seventh Defendant, also charged with failing to have a licence for his junk, was fined a further \$7 or seven days. Sgt Hughes prosecuted.

DIET FOR FINICKY CHILDREN

It isn't always naughtiness that makes children go off their food. It is more often "Nerviness," tired digestion and the need for the stimulus of a new, palatable, easily digested food.

Finicky children respond very readily to Horlicks. They love its flavour, it keeps them regular and provides abundant nourishment in a form that the most queasy stomach can take.

Soon you notice a wonderful change. The little body begins to fill-out, colour returns to the cheeks, peevishness goes and appetite becomes keen. Horlicks gives a child all the energy needed for rapid growth and strenuous play.

LEE THEATRE



COMING SOON!

"R. Abbit's" Cricket Comments

Rain Again Spoils Week-end

Recreio Saved Against Indians: Local Interest Definitely On The Wane

THE CRICKET SEASON was yet further ruined by the weather on Saturday last when, after light rain about four, there was a perfect deluge about five o'clock. Apart from the Police and University in the Junior League where the former team made such short work of their opponents that they got the match over before being flooded out there was nothing doing.

There seems to me no earthly chance of finishing the First Division programme and I strongly recommend those interested to scrap all programmes and play off K.C.C. v. Civil Service on the first fine Saturday.

I went along to deal with the C.S.C.C. v. Varsity match at the Valley only to find it had been cancelled.

There is something pretty rotten in the cricket out here at present and unless more enthusiasm is shown I don't know what is going to happen to the game. I admit the weather difficulties but it is more than that.

I AM inclined to think that the Recreio with a somewhat depleted team might quite probably have been beaten on Saturday last but for the rain. The conditions were never good and the I.R.C. had to struggle for runs.

Had Osorio, who bowled excellently, been able to get good support from the other end, a very different story might have been told, but the I.R.C. batsmen hung on and six of them got double figures, K. M. Rumjahn heading the list with 25 runs.

The total of 116 was very modest and, had Eddie Gosano been there to bowl opposite Osorio, (they are a splendid contrast), I think it would have been very much smaller.

The Recreio started poorly but rain intervened. They suffer from the fact that both Jerry and Zinho Gosano have been on the injured list, and I am afraid that they are tending rather towards that multiplicity of games which has spoiled many a promising young player here.

League Match Finished

THE Police showed a flash of their last year's form when they beat the University second eleven, which had been obliged to include one or two of fairly regular first eleven players.

Apart from Matthews (28) and T. T. Chin (14) the highest score was 3, and they were all out for 58! White took 6 for 35 and Carey 4 for 18.

The Police had time to hit off the runs before the deluge burst—one of the heaviest I have seen for some time.

SPORTS ADVT.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Draft Programmes and Entry Forms for the Third Extra Race Meeting to be held (weather permitting) on Saturday, 12th, and Monday, 14th April, 1941, may be obtained from the Secretary's Office, Exchange Building; the Club House, Happy Valley; the Hong Kong Club; the Sports Club; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on THURSDAY, 3rd April, 1941.

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Eastern Beat Comb Manila Universities

MANILA, Mar. 31 (UP).—The Eastern Football Club from Hongkong defeated the picked stars from the Letran and San Thomas Universities 4-2 in a football match to-day. Hau Ching-to scored two of the goals.

The Hongkong XI lead 2-0 at half-time, but the local team scored twice in quick succession in the early minutes of the second half, after which period the Chinese regained the superiority and went through on two more occasions to register goals.

Kotewall Cup Final On Saturday

The Kotewall Cup final between the Army and South China will be played on the Navy ground, Causeway Bay, at 4.30 p.m. Saturday. Proceeds from the match will be devoted to charity.

time at the Valley—and Hunter's 34 not out was a valuable factor in their first victory.

Draw At K.C.C.

THE principle feature of the drawn game at K.C.C. was a bright innings of 64 by Ainslie made in three quarters of an hour.

Ainslie has shown much promise this season and has several excellent performances to his credit both with bat and ball. Unfortunately, he has a habit of interlarding these bright patches with a series of complete failures. It is a thing he will grow out of, given patience and plenty of practice.

The C.S.C.C. got to 123 which was not likely to have been good enough in fine weather, but the rain saved them. All these unfinished matches have to be replayed, according to the rules. I wonder if they will be?

Club Game

THERE was the usual Army and Club friendly at H.K.C.C. Alec Pearce who skipped the Army side which included G. J. P. Carey and E. W. Pudney.

Thanks to one of Pearce's brilliant centuries against some not very strong bowlers the Army ran up 180 for 5 declared. D. S. Robb's XI looked like collapse when the rain came.

ANOTHER WASH-OUT
THE R.A.O.C. played the I.R.C. second eleven and the game met the usual fate. Stonor, who does a great deal of secretarial work for Army cricket, retired with his score at 54, and in all the military side run up 150 for 7 declared. I.R.C. had one for 31 when the game terminated.

A SCHOOL GAME
THE Craigengower second eleven play a good many school games, and on Saturday last they had quite a good game with St Joseph's College. They made 118 only, and it would have been a close thing as M. A. Wehali made 46, and the school had 85 for six wickets.

These games are excellent for our young cricketers while still at school, and I take off my hat to the Clubs who organise them.

ARMY CRICKET
I SEE that the Sappers pulled off the Army competition, unless I have entirely misread the book, but there seems to be a Small Units final down for this week.

I only wish that I could slink out of my office to see a bit of the game between the A.A. and R.A.S.C.

It will be interesting to see if the two Peaces come off for the A.A. as so often our better players fall when turning out for junior teams.

Pagh - Umetani Match Finally Brought To An End

Brilliant Badminton At Kowloon C.C.

M. P. Yoong Beats Hooi In Great Match

(By "Tinker")

Words seem so inadequate when required to describe a match such as that between M. P. Yoong and P. K. Hooi in the Badminton Championships at the Kowloon C.C. last night. Skill and unconquerable determination blended to make the game one which outshone most others ever played in the Colony.

In the two games that were completed, each was set and Hooi lost only by the narrowest margin, while in the third game, Yoong was forced to retire for a short while owing to cramp in the stomach which was attended by a vomiting spell. This was actually the second game, after he had won the first, and he conceded it to Hooi when the score was 11-5 in Hooi's favour.

Results at a glance were:

SENIOR SINGLES

M.P. Yoong beat P. K. Hooi 17-14, 5-11, 17-15.

K. W. Choy beat W. Gillies 15-3, 15-1.

JUNIOR SINGLES

J. Odell beat H. S. Jones 15-5, 15-12.

J. L. Anderson beat E. Zimmern 15-0, 15-7.

JUNIOR DOUBLES

T. S. Young and M. K. Fung beat Peter Lo and J. Tsang 16-17, 15-7.

Brilliant Victory

THE YOONG-HOOI match was the match of the evening. Yoong led 9-0 in the first game, before Hooi commenced on his back-to-the-wall fight that was the outstanding feature of the whole match. Offsetting Yoong's control over the shuttle with accuracy that found the corners in several occasions, Hooi crept up to 9-3, 10-9, 11-8 and finally took the lead at 14-1.

Hooi settled at three, and with Yoong leading 2-0, service changed hands several times before the latter collected the winning point. It was towards the end of this set that Yoong gave first signs of distress. In the second game he was obviously labouring under 10-5 and when Hooi was leading 10-5 had to request a minute's rest. He carried on again for one more strenuous point and then left the court. He was absent for more than five minutes and conceded the game to Hooi.

Marvellous Recovery

HIS RECOVERY in the third game was marvellous. One anticipated that Hooi, who was playing like a champion, would walk over his handicapped opponent, but there was no handicap apparent when Yoong opened up.

He led 6-2, 7-3, 9-3 and the Hooi again worked back again into 8-9 down. The score went 11-9, 11-10, 12-9, 13-10 and finally 14-11 in Yoong's favour. Each point kept the large crowd of spectators on the edge of their seats, and in fact in the midst of one particularly thrilling rally they could not forbear to cheer while the shuttle was still in flight.

From 14-11, Hooi crept up 14-12, 14-13 and finally 14-14. Yoong retired at three and at 1-1 service changed hands four times before Yoong scored his two points with fine cross court shots.

K. W. Choy Supreme

ON last night's and previous exhibitions, there does not seem to be anyone in Hongkong who is likely to deprive K. W. Choy of the Colony Singles Championship. His opponent yesterday, W. Gillies, though a great trial, was out-played in every department.

Choy's deceptive wrist work, his extremely powerful smashes and his amazing shuttle control go to the make-up of a badminton player that any Colony would be proud to acknowledge as its champion. It might sound a little premature, but on form all indications are in that direction. Enthusiasts can nevertheless be most certain that the later games in the Senior Singles are going to be of a standard never seen before in Hongkong.

Referees' Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Hongkong Football Referees' Association will be held at the Hotel Cecil at 8 p.m. to-day. The speaker will be Mr. Wong Ka-tsun, Chairman of the Hongkong Football Association.

Japanese Eliminated In Three Sets

(By "Tinker")

THOUGH at one time it appeared that the match was again going to be postponed, M. Pagh eventually eliminated O. Umetani in the Colony Singles Tennis Championship at the Hongkong C.C. yesterday in three sets. Scores were 4-6, 14-12, 6-3.

The crowd of spectators were thoroughly entertained with the standard which never dropped throughout the match. The ground was heavy and slippery, and shots were consequently difficult to make. In this, however, the odds were in favour of the Japanese who was far the lighter on his feet.

But the marathon second set should never have gone that distance. Decisions generally were doubtful, and though they were dispensed with cheerful impartiality, two in particular fell very heavily on Pagh in this second set. He won 14-12—which was just 14 games too many that were played.

The balls quickly discoloured and once again the umpire was in great difficulty, but with due respects to the linesmen concerned, I venture to say that it is impossible, especially in such a match and on ground as yesterday's, for the baseline judges to give decisions on sideline balls.

In the 12th game of the second set, with Umetani serving, the score was 15-40 when a palpable double-fault was allowed. Pagh was then leading 5-5 and should have won 7-5.

Again in the 20th game with Umetani again serving, there was a line decision given by the baselinesman against Pagh that made the players hesitate. The game eventually went to Umetani for that point made him 40-love, and though he lost two points he won the third.

However, the set went to Pagh.

Accurate Shots

THE condition of the court made tennis difficult, but both players were nevertheless in accurate form, and several shots on the deep backhand were first-class. Each was concentrating on the backhand, and in this Pagh lost several valuable points by hitting just over the side-line.

To-day's Tennis

The following are to-day's matches in the Open Tennis Championships:

SINGLES

Tsui Wal-pui v. K. H. Yip.
S. A. Rumjahn v. Lieut. Shields Goodman.

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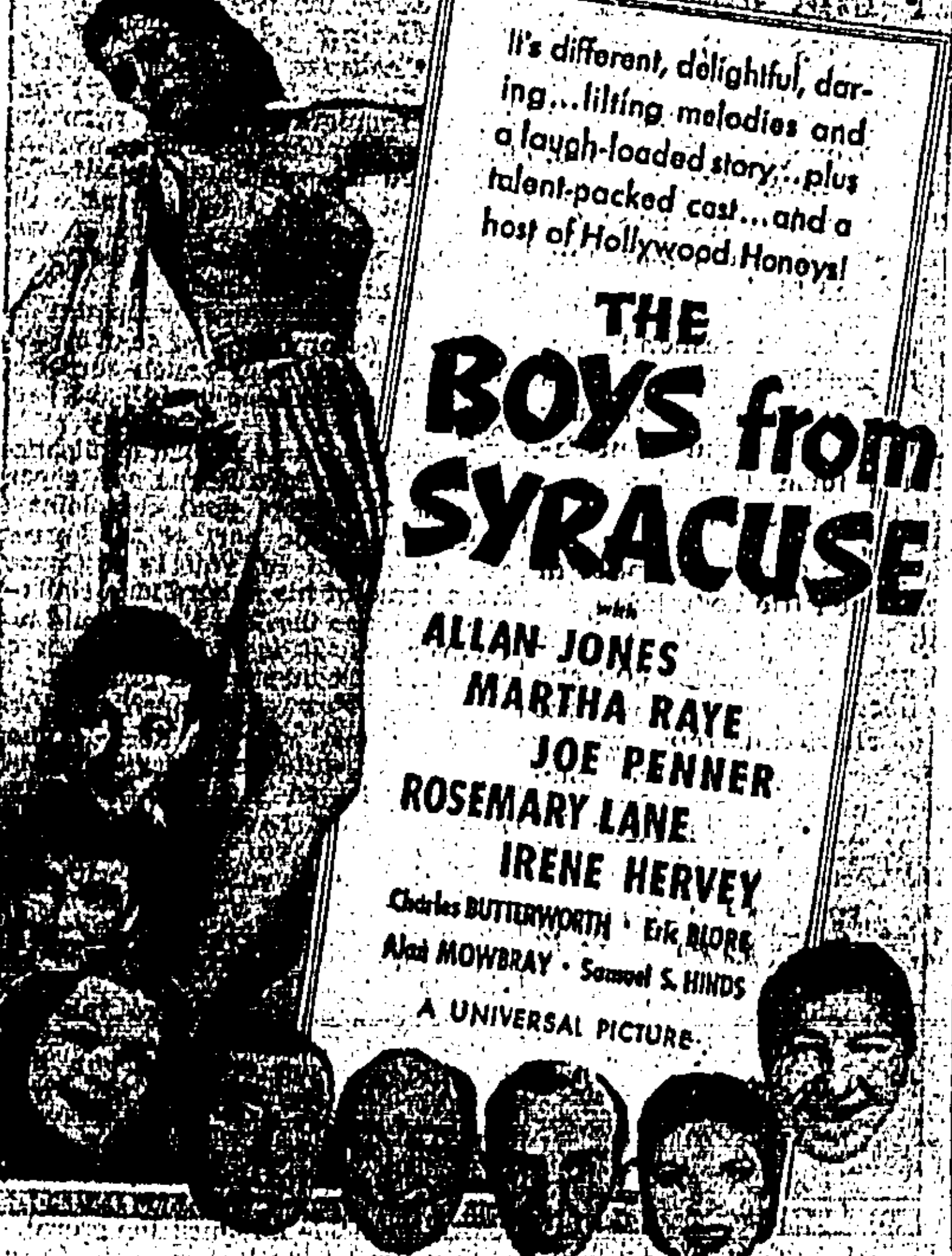
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Enemy Losses Over Britain

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—RAF fighter pilots and anti-aircraft defences destroyed enemy aircraft at an average rate of 50 a month since January 1, over and around Britain. The total "bag" for the first quarter

of 1941 was 135. Fighter Command losses for the first quarter of the year were 41 aircraft, states the Air Ministry. **Quiet Night** LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—London had no air warning to-night. This is the eleventh quiet night running, though over and around Britain tonight there was again slight activity, mainly over the north-east coast.

Raiders were reported over several other areas but up to a late hour no incidents were reported. **Fighter In Channel** LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—An enemy fighter which ventured over the Channel to-day was destroyed by R.A.F. fighters. It was officially announced. This is the only item of daylight air activity by the enemy which the Air Ministry has to report.

Wedding Unites Prominent H.K. Chinese Families

Two prominent Chinese families were united yesterday when the marriage between Miss Katherine Kam-Sheung Lee and Mr Benjamin Kwai Lau Lui took place at the Registry.

ONLY FOOD IN VICHY SHIPS Convoy Incident

LONDON, Mar. 31 (Reuter).—A Vichy communique denies that any materials other than food-stuffs were aboard the convoy which figured in the incident with British units off the Algerian coast.

The communique says that the cargoes consisted of 15,000 tons of rice and sugar, being sent to Madagascar and India for the Allies, 1,500 tons of vegetables and seeds from Morocco for the non-occupied zone, and 7,000 tons of barley from Morocco, intended for the native population of Algeria.

German Pressure (BY "REUTERS" DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT)

LONDON, Mar. 31.—The Germans are playing up the incident off the Algerian coast between the French, convoy of four merchantmen and British units. The British have excellent reasons for believing that the ships were laden with contraband, chiefly a big consignment of rubber. The incident is unfortunate as the Vichy Government are acting under the inspiration, it is presumed, of the Germans. The rights of the British to enforce blockade are undisputed in international law and it was only by the exercise of great self-restraint that the British did not employ the power which was in their hands of using coercion against the blockade runners but the higher considerations of humanity prevailed. Despite the added provocation of hell-fire from the shore batteries and attacks from the air.

No Wish To Quarrel

Britain has obviously no wish to quarrel with Vichy or interfere with the legitimate traffic between non-occupied France and her colonies, but it is clear that Germany cannot be allowed to take advantage of British generosity and forbearance. It is therefore to be expected that Britain's attitude in this and cognate questions will be repeated to Vichy in unmistakable language to remove the chances of repetition of such incidents. The British Government have known for some time that French vessels have been carrying goods destined for Germany. The most revealing was the programme for French railway transport drawn up by the Germans recently covering January 15 to March 1, which fell into British hands.

One And Rubber

According to this programme, some 30,000 tons of bauxite, 10,000 tons of aluminium and thousands of tons of rubber were to be transferred from Unoccupied France to Germany. Absolute priority over other shipments was provided in the programme for some 200,000 tons of nitrate which had arrived in Unoccupied France from Chile. The Free French newspaper, published in London, writes: "Frenchmen will realize, despite the efforts of the Vichy radio that Admiral Darlan is playing the Germans' game. He is pushing collaboration with the Reich to as extreme limits as Laval would have done. If Dar-

lan is tied to Berlin, the French nation repudiates this outrageous alliance and remains faithful to the alliance with Britain, who is fighting for victory over the common enemy."

The bridegroom is actively connected with badminton, being not only a playing member of the King's College league team, but also the team's representative on the Badminton Association Council. He is a physical instructor at King's College and the Evening Institute, holding the S.C.I. Diploma from the Swedish College of Physical Education from the Loughborough College, England.

Mr F. S. Whyte-Smith performed the ceremony at the Registry, where the bride was attended by Mrs Lee Tse-ming as Matron of Honour, Miss Dorrie Lee, the bride's sister and Miss Nancy Lui, the bridegroom's sister as bridesmaids.

The Dresses

The bride was given away by her uncle Mr Lee Tse-ming. Her dress was of white French lace, cut on princess lines with high neck and long sleeves. A tiera of orange blossoms held her long tulle veil in place. She carried a bouquet of armillaries. The bridesmaids wore dresses of sky blue and mauve tulle with high waists, full skirts, short puff sleeves and Juliet caps of the same materials. They carried posies of mixed spring flowers.

The groom was supported by his brother, Mr Herbert Lui, and the bride's brother, Mr Buddy Lee. Master Tony Lee, in full morning coat and top hat was page boy, while Miss Cheung Shiu-chee, a miniature of the bridesmaids, in pink, was the flower girl.

Receptions

Over 600 people attended the reception at the Gloucester Hotel, where the Hon. Mr M. K. Lo proposed the health of the bride and groom, Mr Lui responding. Last night the respective families held a reception at the Kam Loong Restaurant, where congratulations and felicitations were exchanged. Mr and Mrs Lui are spending their honeymoon at Repulse Bay.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A total of \$1,740,390.44 and 28.10s. was reached yesterday by the War Fund inaugurated by the C. I. Post, Ltd. with the following donations: Police Recreation Club (twelfth donation) \$ 45 (sixth donation) 15 Mr and Mrs S. W. P. Perry 50 (21st donation) 20 W. P. C. (March) 10 "23rd Loss" 5 "24th Loss" 5 "King's Courage" 25 P. R. P. O. H. 1 Central Police Canteen (fifth donation) 20.70 "Exchange Control Plan" (1st quarter, 1941) 30.90 "Hampshire Harpists" 28.10.0d The following monthly donations are also acknowledged: Miss Head 25 Miss M. M. Swift 25 Miss Stuart Longfield 100 W. H. E. C. 45 Mr O. E. Berlin 500 Mr Austin 10 Mrs E. J. Grant 25 Mr E. C. Jones 10 Mr H. H. Howie 20 Mrs M. S. Fortescue 25

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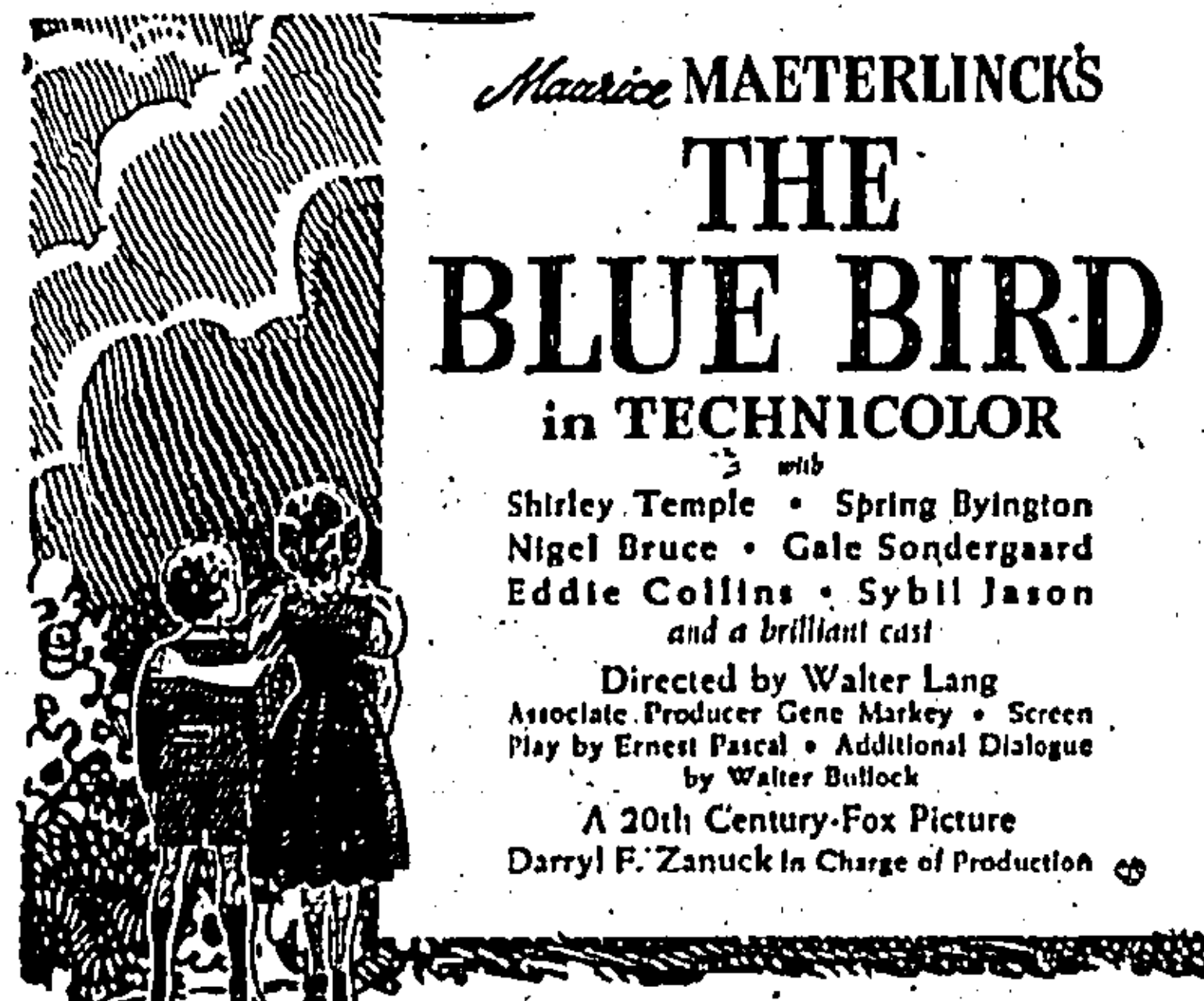
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Italian Ships Led Into Trap

→ FROM PAGE ONE

Italian ships were menacing them and the cruiser Pola, though motionless, was still unaccounted for.

Surrender At Sea

As the Jervis approached the Pola swung out a large white sheet and her crew were drawn up on the quarter-deck apparently ready to surrender. The Pola's private papers and the ship's books were burning beneath the after gun turret.

A gangplank was thrown across between the quarter-decks of the Pola and the Jervis and the surrendering Italians clambered aboard. Meanwhile as the Pola was surrendering the remaining British destroyers were cruising round picking up survivors. The prisoners included an official naval war correspondent who is also an artist. He said he had already prepared a picture of British ships sinking but he tore it up when he found that it was Italian and not British ships that were being sunk.

Optical Instruments

An interesting point with regard to this action is that the British were able to pick out the Italians in the darkness before they themselves were seen. A large measure of the success must be credited to the superiority of British optical instruments to the German instruments used by the Italians.

The ceaseless practice of the British fleet in night fighting also undoubtedly contributed to the signal victory. It seems probable that the Italians put to sea in an attempt to intercept British convoys.

Asked whether he thought the Italians put to sea under German control, Admiral Cunningham was of the opinion that they probably put to sea "under German instigation."

'U.S. LABOUR IS READY TO HELP'

"The United States Labour Movement is appreciative of our position, and is willing to co-operate fully, although naturally desirous of safeguarding its standards."

Sir Walter Citrine, general secretary of the T.U.C., gave this impression of his talks with American Labour leaders.

He has been attending the recent convention of the American Federation of Labour in New Orleans.

"Everyone I met was proud of the struggle that Britain is waging and desirous of helping," he declared.

"The purpose of my visit was to share with United States Labour leaders the experience of British trade unions in the war-time emergency in the hope that such knowledge would be useful to the Americans in solving their own problems."

"I am in no way trying to instruct American labour—I am simply trying to inform them of our experiences."

LATE NEWS

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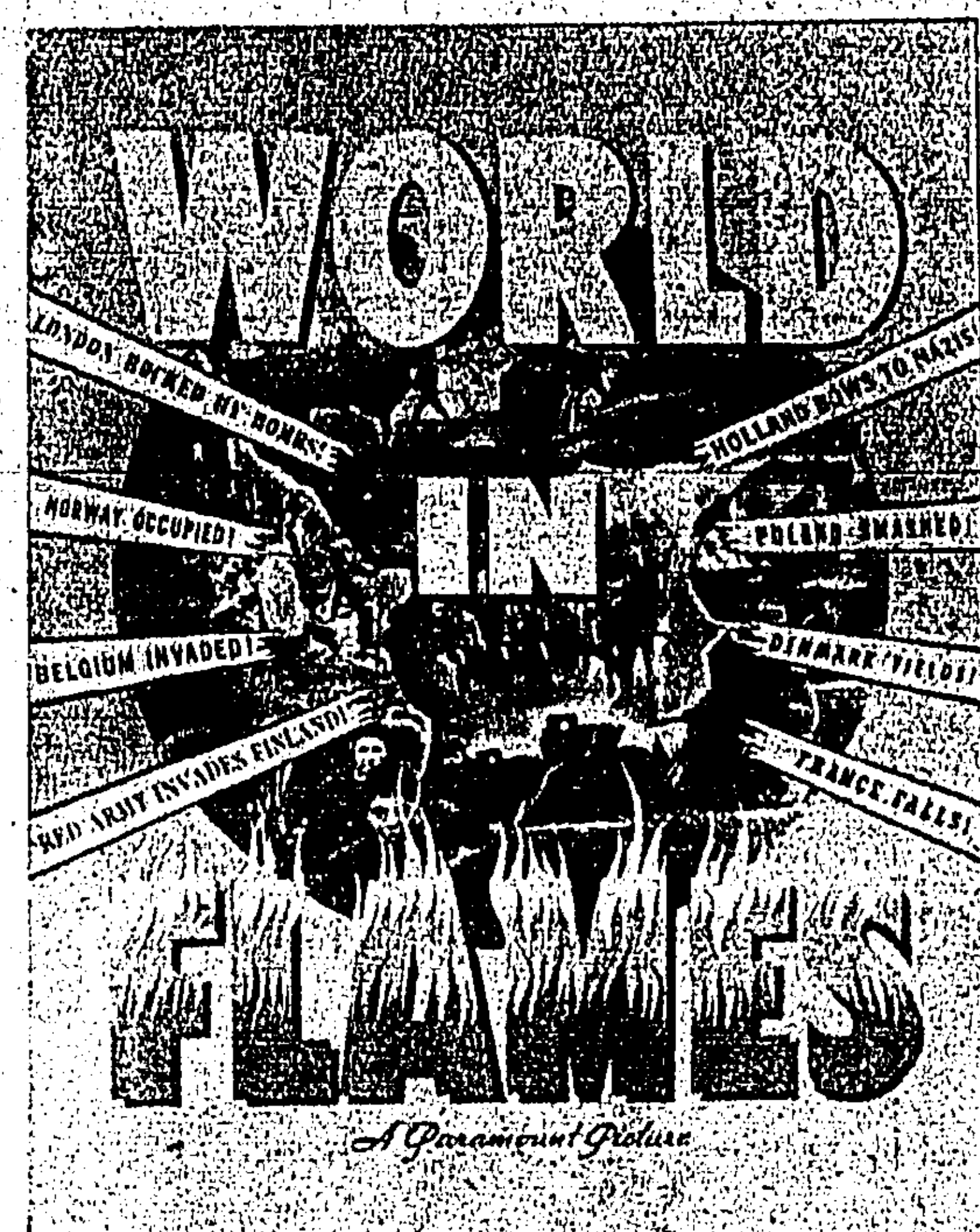


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